

CANNOCK CHRONICLE



Thursday, June 27, 2013

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By George!

Hayes lads take on the Casuals at home of FA

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Upgrades as council to splash the cash

A FURTHER £200,000 will be ploughed into town centres across Cannock Chase under new plans to rejuvenate the high street.

The district council has agreed to spend the money in Cannock, Heath Hayes, Norton Canes, Rugeley, Hednesford and Chads Moor as part of its Town Centre Investment Fund for 2013/14.

More than a quarter of the sum - £55,000 - will be spent on Cannock town centre.

It will go towards new flooring and deep cleaning at the Mill Street underpass, an art project at the Beecroft Road underpass, replacing missing and broken paving tiles and additional cycle racks.

Cleaning

New bins and roads signs will be installed at shopping centres in Heath Hayes, Norton Canes and Chads Moor, where planting and cleaning will also be carried out. In areas of Hednesford that are not part of the town's £50million regeneration, new bins and road signs will be installed.

Road signs will also be replaced at key access points around town centres.

Councillor Diane Todd, town centre regeneration leader, said: "Cannock Chase Council will continue to invest in the district and give residents a sense of pride in their towns."

Sell-out for Chase gigs

PALOMA Faith and Blondie are set to play sell-out gigs in Cannock Chase Forest this weekend.

Around 10,000 tickets have been snapped up for Forest Live, the second year in succession that the concerts have sold out.

A total of 1,000 Paloma tickets were sold in the first weekend of sales, while Blondie shifted 2,000 in the first weekend.

Paloma performs tomorrow (Friday), with Blondie, supported by The Lightning Seeds, on Saturday.

MANOR BOSSES IN BID FOR HOSPITAL

HEALTH bosses in Walsall have launched a multi-million pound bid to run Cannock Hospital - only weeks after Wolverhampton officials pitched their own offer.

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust has submitted its proposals to the administrators of Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, who have been tasked with drawing up plans to make Cannock and Stafford Hospitals both financially and clinically viable.

Under the proposals, millions of pounds would be spent upgrading Cannock Hospital.

Patients who live in Cannock but undergo complicated operations at Walsall Manor would receive 'step down care' at the Brunswick Road site.

Richard Kirby, chief executive of Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, said it was a 'win-win' solution, as it would free up to 30 beds at the Manor while utilising more of Cannock.

Stronger

Currently, Cannock Hospital is 40 per cent under-utilised, while over the past 12 months Manor Hospital has seen a 40 per cent rise in the number of Staffordshire patients it treats, most coming from the Cannock area.

Mr Kirby said: "We are setting out to make the best possible use of the hospital services in Cannock for the people of Cannock."

"We want to deliver as much of the healthcare for the people of Cannock as we can from these facilities."

"Cannock Hospital has stronger connections to local services, together with proper medical staff, and we would work closely with Cannock's GPs."

Under the new proposals, Cannock Hospital would continue to provide day case surgery, outpatient services, diagnostics and elective

by Will Ackermann

orthopaedics. Services would not be moved from Walsall Manor to Cannock Hospital.

The announcement comes after Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust submitted its own proposal.

The Trust Special Administrators have until July 31 to publish a draft report of their plans, after healthcare regulator Monitor granted them a 30-day extension.

Cannock Chase District Council welcomed both submissions.

Council leader Councillor George Adamson said: "Cannock Chase district has significant health needs and these are a top priority for the council."

"Cannock Chase Council's cabinet has formally expressed its full support for Cannock Hospital to be managed as part of Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust and for Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust to also be a local provider of NHS services at this facility."

He added: "The council's cabinet has always been of the view that Cannock Hospital should be retained and managed by the NHS and feels this proposal secures the future of the hospital in a robust manner that is consistent with the public interest."

Parish worker Bales out for teaching job



Kevin Bales from St Augustine's Church who has started a new role at Chancel Primary School in Rugeley

WHEN Kevin Bales starts work as a trainee teacher in Rugeley, his pupils will have to get used to calling him by his full name.

Children at Chancel Primary School know him as the church volunteer who performs biblical dramatisations in their assemblies.

He will step down as parish family worker for Rugeley and Breerton's Anglican churches in August, before starting a year of training at the school, in association with the University of Wolverhampton, in September.

Mr Bales, aged 27, of Uttoxeter, said: "I'm excited to be building on what I have been doing for the last three

years. The children I will be teaching and the staff I will be working with I have known for a long time, so I am excited to build on those relationships in a different setting."

"I am looking forward to the challenge that being a teacher brings but I will miss working in all the different schools and meeting all the children and performing."

Impression

St Augustine's Church, on Station Road, will hold a thanksgiving service for Mr Bales on July 21 from 4pm.

Eileen Newman, wife of vicar Rev Preb Michael Newman, said: "The

amount of work he has achieved in three years has been truly phenomenal. He has made a lasting impression on both children and staff, taking imaginative assemblies, teaching the word of God through drama."

"His help with church clubs, JaM club at Etchingham, Treasure Seekers at St Augustine's and Christian club at Hob Hill, as well as the training sessions for helpers, has been extremely useful and thought-provoking."

"His infectious enthusiasm and imagination have inspired many to take part, and the Easter and Christmas trails have proved a real attraction for both children and adults."

Parking free for return of carnival

HUNDREDS of free parking spaces will be provided as Breerton Carnival makes its long-awaited return after a 26-year absence.

Stewards will be out in force on temporary car parks at Towers Business Park off Wheelhouse Road.

Organisers say they expect thousands of families to turn up on July 13.

An appeal to resurrect the event, which ran from 1977 until 1986, was launched last July by the Breerton & Ravenhill Association for Community Events (Brace).

The carnival will feature a procession of floats and bands setting off from Hawkins Logistics Yard in Redbrook Lane at midday.

Interest

It will end up at Ravenhill Park where the festivities will take place throughout the day. Steve Hammersley of Brace said: "Preparations have been going well."

"We can get quite a lot of cars onto the industrial estate so that should help. We've had huge interest in the carnival."

There will also be a classic car display, music, stilt walkers, jugglers and the Uttoxeter Morris Men and about 40 stalls plus food and refreshments.

Mr Hammersley said the volunteers were still needed to help out along the procession or at Ravenhill Park.

Call 07870 147069.

MP in talks on academy

CHASE MP Aidan Burley will next week meet campaigners fighting to save their children's school from becoming an academy.

The Conservative MP will meet parents, teachers and governors at Norton Canes Primary School, in School Road, on Wednesday (July 3).

The Government is looking at replacing the board of governors at the school and at Heath Hayes Primary.

● Petition - Page 20

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NEWS

Joan's work honoured



Soroptimists Carole Holdcroft, left, and Joan Edmunds
A MEMBER of a Cannock group has been honoured for her 30 years of active work with Soroptimist International. Joan Edmunds received a certificate signed by the Federation President of St Great Britain and Ireland, Pat Black.

Carole Holdcroft, team president of St Cannock & District, made the presentation at the club's June meeting. Joan has been involved with all aspects of the club's activities over the 30 years of her membership and is still actively involved in keeping in contact with one of their Friendship Link clubs in Vienna. Joan was delighted to receive the long service certificate.

The club's next event will be their Summer Celebration at Littywood Manor in July. On July 13 members will be at Cannock Carnival where they will have a lively game for children and adults to play as well as information relating to many of their current awareness-raising issues, including trafficking, domestic violence and ovarian cancer.

Purge leads to school slashing its energy bills

A BURNTWOOD school has slashed its energy bills by almost £4,800 thanks to a council scheme. Ridgeway Primary has saved more than £3,450 on gas and £1,330 on electricity over the past nine months.

Staffordshire County Council's climate change officers have worked in partnership with the Carbon Trust to help the Grange Road school achieve the 17 per cent reduction.

Pupils have contributed by carrying out regular checks to find lighting and equipment being used needlessly.

Headteacher Joanne Jelves said: "I'm very pleased with the savings we've made so far and surprised that we've made them with just a few changes around the school."

Manage

"We identified early on through the scheme that our heating system was outdated and gave us very little control."

"Working with the climate change officers we were able to update our controls allowing us to manage our heating much better, ensuring it is set not to come on when not needed during weekends and holidays."

"On top of this we have now had some LED lighting and occupancy detectors fitted into most of the classrooms. Hopefully, this will save us even more." The

by Will Ackermann

project is part of a council scheme launched in 2011, which has so far helped 10 schools to save a combined £40,000.

Since then, another 19 schools have joined and are taking part in workshops on saving energy and managing heating, lighting and ICT services more effectively.

Councillor Ben Adams, cabinet member for learning and skills, said: "I am really encouraged with the savings that Ridgeway are making on their energy costs."

"They are one of 19 schools across the county who are helping us to reduce energy bills."

"This is great news for us as a council and even better news for our local taxpayers."

"This is just one of many initiatives we are running to reduce energy costs and if the scheme is rolled out to just 100 of our nearly 400 schools, over five years we could potentially save over £300,000 per year."

The school has also been raising pupils' awareness of the cost and environmental impact of leaving electrical appliances turned on.

Haunting book challenge

BRAVE youngsters can explore a haunted house at Cannock Library next month. By reading any six books they can take part in the 'Creepy House' Summer Reading Challenge and enjoy face painting, ghost hunting, creepy crafts, stories and competitions. The free event takes place at the Manor Avenue library on July 13, from 10am to 3pm, with no booking necessary. For more information call 01543 510365, or visit www.staffordshire.gov.uk/libraries or www.facebook.com/staffordshirelibraries

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Grant aid funds are available

GROUPS in Burntwood are invited to apply for grant aid funding from the town council.

The 2013 Scheme opened on Monday (June 24) and closes on September 16. Decisions will be announced at a presentation in December. Forms can be requested from the town council office or downloaded from www.burntwood-tc.gov.uk

The grant aid scheme provides start-up money for new organisations as well as funds to those already operating. Applications from individuals will not be considered.

The organisation must have clearly stated aims and objectives set out in writing; a written Constitution; be able to provide a copy of its latest annual accounts and most recent bank statement and have an account operated by at least two joint signatories.

It must provide a service of benefit to the Burntwood community or to a particular group of residents.

For more details, contact the town clerk at Unit 1 Lambourne House, Bridge Cross Road, Burntwood, call 01543 677166 or email townclerk@burntwood-tc.gov.uk

Memorial bid lodged

FORMAL plans have been unveiled for a £17,000 war memorial in Burntwood.

Burntwood Memorial Institute in Rugeley Road has been raising funds for the stone for the past 10 years. Plans have now been submitted to Lichfield District Council.

It is hoped the stone, to honour ex-town residents who have died in conflict, could be in place before the Service of Remembrance in November.

Burntwood Town Council handed over £400 towards the project.

Peter Reynolds, a trustee of the institute, said: "We've reached our target now which was about £17,000."

MP to drop-in

PUPILS in Hednesford are to get a VIP visitor. Cannock Chase MP Aidan Burley is visiting St Peter's CoE Primary School to see progress that has been made in recent months. Ofsted has praised the school's progress after a disappointing report a year ago.

NHS campaigner will 'move into caravan'



Campaigner Julie Bailey

A CAMPAIGNER who helped expose the scandal at Stafford Hospital is moving out of town into a static caravan because she 'fears for her life'.

Julie Bailey fought to uncover shocking neglect and appalling standards of care at Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust following the death of her 86-year-old mother Bella at the hospital.

The 50-year-old Cure the NHS founder says she has been 'driven out of town', claiming sections of the community have turned against her, with threatening letters, telephone calls and vandalism to her mother's grave.

Income at her Lichfield Road cafe dropped to just £40 to £50 a day as many boycotted the business. "I'm devastated," said mother-of-two Mrs

Bailey. "I'm having to leave my home and my livelihood because of a small number of people."

"I just hope the hospital now becomes safe and sustainable - what I've tried for, for the past three years. I want people in the community to be safe when they go there."

Fearful

Mrs Bailey said she would be moving into the static caravan within the next couple of weeks, after returning from holiday.

She refused to disclose the area to which she is moving, saying she is 'fearful for her life'.

"I want to thank all the people in Staffordshire that have helped in our fight," she added. Mrs

Bailey has said she now planned to turn her campaign group Cure the NHS into a national charity to offer advice to people across the country.

She said: "The plan is for Cure The NHS to become an official charity where we will consult groups on how to act as a watchdog for hospitals."

"Part of this will be speaking to groups and using the experience of what happened at Stafford."

"I'll be advising what to look out for, what hospitals may say to conceal problems and also push for hospital reports to be made public."

"It won't necessarily be in area where there is a problem with a hospital, it is where a branch of Cure The NHS wants to set up," she said.

Environment chiefs warn fly problem still not over

RESIDENTS plagued by a fly infestation at a factory near Rugeley may not have seen the end of the problem despite a reduction in the insects.

People living and working in Brereton have been invaded by flies in the last month, but have begun to see improvements following the spraying of specialist pesticides at the site last week.

Report by Tom Mason

The factory in Redbrook Lane Industrial Estate was illegally filled with black bags, paper and plastic waste by its owner.

In a report to the district council's environment boss, Councillor Carl Bennett said that initial reports from local homeowners indicated that the spraying of the refuse and the outside of the unit had proved successful and that the number of flies were in decline, but he added that work would still be needed to remedy the issue.

Comment

A spokesman for the Environment Agency which is working in collaboration with Cannock Chase District Council said: "We are currently investigating a large amount of illegally tipped waste on Redbrook Lane, Brereton."

"As this is an ongoing investigation we can't comment on the details of this case at this time, but we will continue to liaise with the local authority's Environment Agency."

£87m MoD deal for Briggs

A CANNOCK company has won a multi-million pound defence contract to maintain a fleet of vehicles. Briggs Equipment in Orbital Way landed the deal worth around £87 million to supply, maintain and manage thousands of vehicles for the UK Ministry of Defence (MoD). Forklifts, tractors, trailers, side loaders and container handlers are just some of the equipment that Briggs will provide and maintain. It will also find more than 1000 replacements for the MoD's current fleet, 84 per cent of which will be sourced from UK suppliers. Richard Close, Briggs CEO, said: "This is a very significant contract award."



Annie Merrick and Daniel Page have a cup of tea with children and staff at Little Owl Childcare as they celebrate an outstanding Ofsted report with a Mad Hatter's Tea Party

Party time at school

A BURNTWOOD primary held a Mad Hatter's tea party to celebrate its child-care service's outstanding Ofsted rating.

Little Owl Childcare, housed at Highfields Primary School on Elder Lane, went from 'good' to 'outstanding' in its last inspection.

Children wore homemade hats to celebrate with sandwiches and cakes.

Manager Sarah McCormick said: "Everyone had such fun on the day."

"We are absolutely delighted with the report, it is a true reflection of the teamwork between the staff, children and parents."

Following the inspection in May, the Ofsted report said: "The quality of leadership is recognised by other professionals and drives the pursuit of excellence in all of the nursery activities."

"Children benefit from rich, varied and imaginative experiences that are delivered by staff who have expert knowledge of how children learn and how they can support this."

Little Owl also operates a childcare service at Chase Terrace Primary School and a day care centre at St James' C of E School in Longdon, Rugeley.

NEWS in brief

CCTV could be reduced in cuts

MORE than 1,500 crimes in Lichfield district would not be caught on camera if CCTV is scrapped.

The authority is looking at reducing CCTV operation among its proposed budget cuts. The district has 85 cameras in use, 64 of which are operated by the council. Ten of the cameras are located in Burntwood.

Youth clubs, sport sessions and playschemes could also be slashed with 20 jobs axed.

Opposition group leader Steve Norman said: "The proposed budget cuts are severe."

Total beginners' Burlesque class

A BURLESQUE workshop for absolute beginners will be held in Burntwood.

The group will meet on Saturday, July 6, at Number 7s nightclub in Bridge Cross Road between 10am and 1pm. Registration for the £29 session takes place at 9.30am.

No previous experience in burlesque, dance or fitness is required but booking is essential.

For information call 01543 505649.

Blaze at property is caused by grill

A GRILL sparked a blaze at a home in Cannock.

Firefighters were called to St Michael's Drive in Rawsley just after midnight on Saturday (June 22).

One person, who had already left the house, was checked over at the scene by paramedics.

Crews left around an hour later.

Victory Hall the venue for dance

A BARN dance is being held in aid of a Rugeley church next month.

It takes place at The Victory Hall, Slitting Mill, from 7.30pm on Friday, July 12, in aid of St John The Baptist Church.

Tickets are £7.50 including a fish and chip supper. Call 01889 582837 or 01889 582645.

Sports hall hire

THE sports hall at Penkridge Leisure Centre in Cannock Road is available to hire for five-a-side football, table tennis and badminton at weekends. It is available on Saturdays from 11.30am to 2pm and on Sundays from 11am to 3.30pm. Call 01785 714152.

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NEWS

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



WE ARE on holiday in Beer, Devon. As I write this, it's another sultry day on the beach, heat rippling off the pebbles and the sky as blue as a sailor's shirt. Trippers in shorts and sunglasses queue for the all-day breakfasts and chat lazily under the cafe umbrellas. It is worth recalling that the weather experts who last week hadn't a clue that this hot spell was coming are the same forecasters who are this week predicting washout summers for the next 10 years. So they can't get it right five days ahead but they are quietly confident about 2023. Allow me to raise one eyebrow.

A MET Office spokesman on Radio 4 helpfully explained the difference between weather and climate. Climate is what you expect. Weather is what you get.

AFTER 12 years of combat in Afghanistan, the Americans and UK are now seeking peace talks with the Taliban. Isn't this what we used to call a defeat?

I LOVED the story a few days ago about little Adam Kirby, from south London who, at the age of two was found to have an IQ of 141. Mind you, his parents guessed he was a bit of a prodigy when Adam potty-trained himself at 23 months - having read a book on the subject.

A REPORT by the Institute of Fiscal Studies reveals that Britons are consuming fewer calories but are two stone heavier than people were 30 years ago. So what's new? I recall my father, a builder, remarking in the 1970s on the shrinking size of the average labourer's lunch. Back in the 1950s, when men worked without the aid of brick hoists, cement mixers or dumper trucks, lunch on building sites was a big, calorie-packed meal of cheese or corned-beef sandwiches. By the 1970s it had shrunk to a bag of crisps and a Kit-Kat. We have swapped backbreaking toil for flabby bodies and most folk seem happy with the deal.

THIS week yet another survey reveals that white British kids from poor homes are the ethnic group least likely to succeed at school. We ought to be surprised, but are we? Every other group seems to realise that education is the way to succeed in life. In too many British families, anyone who shows academic promise is taunted for being a swat, a snob or a class traitor. Deep in the DNA of Britain is the belief that you must know your place and never get above yourself and that college ain't for the likes of us. Kids fail because they are bred to fail.

I HAVE been in journalism for 44 years and I bet each of those 44 years has brought news of an imminent miracle cure for cancer. Latest contender this week is a paper in Nature Cell Biology which tells how scientists at University College London believe they have discovered how cancer spreads from one part of the body to another. If they are on the right track they say it could be "relatively easy" to develop drugs to stop it. And yet look behind the headlines and you discover that the scientists have been working with frog and fish embryos rather than cancer cells and experts admit: "There's a very long way to go." I am dead against censorship but just as pornography should be carefully monitored and controlled, so should hope.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Family plea after documents found

AN AUSTRALIAN woman is trying to trace the family of a Cannock man whose old letters she found while clearing her friend's home.

Glenda Faye, from Brisbane, contacted a Cannock historian after stumbling across the reference letters, which were written by past employers of James Boddice and date back to 1912.

Trevor McFarlane, chairman of Cheslyn Hay & District Local

History Society, is appealing for Chronicle readers who recognise the name to come forward with information so he can return the documents to Mr Boddice's family.

The letters show that Mr Boddice, from Chadsmoor in Cannock, worked at the Cannock and District Co-operative Society on Church Street in various roles, starting as a shop boy and advancing to branch manager over seven years.

The history society has found that he married Nellie Lawson, of Old Fallow, Cannock, on January 14, 1912 and they sailed for Brisbane on the Royal Mail Ship Orvieto five days later.

Serving

Mr McFarlane added: "Nellie's brother had already left for Australia two years earlier, so you have to assume that they were heading

out to him. During the First World War Nellie's brother came to visit his family in Cannock while on leave from France serving in the Australian forces.

"We would really like to be able to return these letters to the family," he added.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact The Chronicle via email at cannock.chron@expressandstar.co.uk.

Owner sees the light as property tidied up

A RUGELEY householder has now finally seen the light - after years of being hidden under a thick covering of ivy.

Kenneth Mould's three-bedroomed property in Swallow Close had been completely obliterated from view by ivy and conifers.

Neighbours had been fuming for years about the state of the house and garden. They are now rejoicing as the ivy has been pulled down from the front of the property.

But they said more work needed to be done to remove vegetation from the garden and added ivy still remained on the rear of the house.

Mr Mould was given 14 days to comply with a council order and clean the place up, or further legal proceedings could be launched.

Filthy

Nearby resident and mother-of-five Madeline Robinson, aged 62, said: "It was a terrible eyesore."

"I was beginning to think there wasn't anything behind it."

"It shouldn't have been left to get like that in the first place. It looks better but the windows look filthy. "They haven't done too badly but more needs to be done."

Removing the ivy has also unblocked neighbours' views and residents said Mr Mould had taken it down himself using a ladder.

Some said the ivy had attracted a lot of attention from passers-by.

One neighbour, who did not want to be named, said: "There's been ivy covering the house for at least 10 years."

"It looked like an abandoned house. Everyone used to walk or drive by slowly to look at it."

"It's still on the back of

by Lisa O'Brien

the house and the ivy is still growing at the bottom of the front of the house so I think it might grow back.

Another neighbour, who did not want to be named, said: "It does look better."

"It was such a mess. Why they let it go like that, I don't know."

Mr Mould was initially fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £300 costs by magistrates after Cannock Chase Council prosecuted him for ignoring orders to clean the place up.

Mazher Aqbal, the council's head of development control, confirmed clean-up work had taken place, but warned of further legal proceedings.

He said: "I can advise that the occupiers of the property in Swallow Close have undertaken some works to improve its appearance in order to comply with the requirements of a section 215 notice served on this property under the town and country planning act 1990."

"In addition, the council has given the occupier additional time to comply."

"However, the full requirements of the notice have not yet been met therefore the council has given the occupier a further 14 day period to comply with the requirements of the notice."

"If the requirements of the notice are not fully complied with within that period then the council will consider investigating further legal proceedings."

Mr Mould was not available for comment.



Kenneth Mould's home in Rugeley is obliterated by overgrown ivy



Now you see it... the house in Swallow Close following the clean-up operation

Free meal on offer for armed personnel

ARMY, Navy and Air Force personnel can celebrate Armed Forces Day with a free meal in Cannock.

The Mill Farm, a Crown carvery in Lichfield Road, is extending the offer to all past and present servicemen and women. It is serving up a full English breakfast or carvery during the week leading up to Saturday's Armed Forces Day.

And, enjoying the free meal couldn't be easier. All those currently serving, or have served, in the forces, simply need to visit www.crown-carveries.co.uk or www.facebook.com/crown-carveries to download the 'free Forces meal' voucher and present this along with their current ID card (or veteran lapel badge) to restaurant staff.

Mill Farm manager Derek Reilly said: "We pride ourselves in being the UK's most regal carvery brand we feel best placed to support our serving and past troops on this commemorative day."

"An old saying states that an army marches on its stomach, so we hope our full English breakfast or a royally good roast dinner will provide a hearty morale boost for all our proud veterans and hardworking military personnel."

Alice theme at tea party

A SUMMER tea party in Rugeley will have an 'Alice Through the Looking Glass and other stories' theme.

It takes place at St. John the Baptist Church in Slitting Mill, from 1-5pm on Saturday, July 6 and will feature flower displays and a host of stalls and tea and cakes on sale.

Admission is free and there will be a grand draw with tickets will available on the day, from either St John's or the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Or contact Jane in the parish office at St Augustine's on 01889 574157.

Donor session

DONORS are urged to roll up their sleeves in Cannock next week. NHS Blood and Transplant is at the Civic Centre in Beecroft Road, on Monday, July 1. Session times are from 1.30 to 3.30pm and from 4.30 to 7.30pm. Call 0300 1232323 to make an appointment.

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Store staff raise care awareness

STAFF at a Cannock supermarket held a tea party to raise awareness of those who care for the ill, frail and disabled.

The event at Sainsbury's on Orbital Retail Park coincided with Carers Week, from June 10 to 16.

Colleagues chatted with carers from the area over tea and cakes about their work in the community.

Helena Tranter, a senior locality worker at Carers Association Southern Staffordshire, said: "The food was lovely and the welcome from the team was wonderful."

"We're proud to meet and help so many inspirational people that devote their time to caring for a loved one."

"Carers Week gives us the chance to tell the wider community about our work and we'd like to encourage anyone who knows a carer or is a carer themselves and needs support to come along and see us."

Sainsbury's began a partnership with national charity Carers UK in December 2010.

Store manager Mark Pickernell said: "Carers play such an important part in our community and we're proud to be working with Carers UK."

Sailing for youngsters

SAILING sessions for the under-18s get under way next weekend.

Youth Sailing @ Chasewater meets on Saturdays from 9.30am to 1pm and the club's RYA start sailing sessions begin on Saturday, July 6. All equipment is supplied. All that is needed is a change of clothes, old trainers and a towel.

The RYA Start Sailing sessions cost £65 per person, with two follow-on Saturday morning sessions included in the price. Cost to carry on is then £5 a week which includes the use of kit. For full details visit www.chasesc.org.uk or email m.buckingham@btinternet.com

Firm fundraiser

STAFF at a Cannock-based forklift truck supply and service company have raised £20,000 for the Midlands Air Ambulance over the last year. It was chosen as Briggs Equipment's charity of the year for 2012. Employees at Briggs, based in Orbital Way, started fundraising last April.

Photographer is over the moon at picture

A SO-called 'supermoon' has been captured in all its glory illuminating the night skies in this picture taken in Burntwood.

The phenomenon, known as a perigee full moon, occurs when the moon reaches its closest point to earth. It lasted over the weekend and made the moon appear up to 14 per cent bigger and 30 per cent brighter than when it is furthest from the planet.

On Saturday, at around 10.30pm Chase-town resident David Gethin took to his back garden to capture the sight.

Retired forge operator Mr Gethin, aged 64, who lives in Foxhills Close, said: "I had

to wait about 20 minutes or so because the cloud cover kept coming over, but I managed to get a picture of it."

Mr Gethin, who is married to hospital chaplain Lynda, 60, and has one daughter, managed to get the impressive shot by connecting a camera to his telescope and zooming in.

Craters

He put the camera on a 10-second timer and was over the moon with the results.

"You could see the craters in the moon with the naked eye, but when I zoomed in

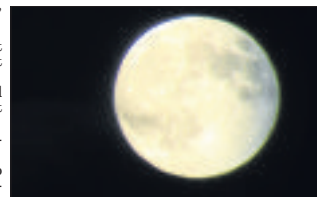
and set my camera up it picked it up better," he said.

"I use it mainly for bird watching, but this 'supermoon' was coming and I thought I would give it a go," he added.

Those who missed the 'supermoon' will have to wait until August 2014 for the next one.

Space expert Heather Couper said 'super-moons' were the result of coincidence.

"The Moon goes round in an oval orbit so it can come very close to us, and if that coincides with a full moon, then it can look enormous," she said.



The supermoon captured by David Gethin

Machete bank raider no match for defiant granny

A BATTLING grandmother has told of the day she stood up to a machete-wielding raider who threatened staff and customers when he went on the rampage in a Rugeley bank.

Jackie Griffiths confronted 49-year-old Gary Smith at the Barclays branch after he held a toy gun to her head as she refused to lie on the floor as he ordered.

She also went to the aid of another customer who was pushed up against a wall by Smith.

"I used to break up fights between my sons when they were teenagers by stepping in between them - and they're both 4in."

"I wasn't going to let this man, who can't have been more than 5ft 7in, get the better of me," she said.

The 69-year-old had gone into the bank on February 14 to take out some money while her husband waited in the car.

She noticed Smith had entered at around the same time and turned to ask whether he wanted to go before her in the queue.

"But as I turned to my left I saw he was holding a gun about two inches from my head," she said.

"I didn't know it wasn't real. I remember momentarily thinking 'Is this the day I die?' He told me to get down twice and I told him 'No'."

Chopping

"Another customer Ian Hodgson, from the print shop, came to my defence and told the man 'Come on, we know the gun's not real.' When I realised that I was fine."

"But then he got a machete out and told Ian he was going to cut him. So I said 'No, why would you want to hurt him? You don't know him and he hasn't done anything.' I didn't feel afraid."

"He seemed to be listening but then he noticed the bank staff on the phone and said he wanted to speak to the local policeman Kevin Lee and got very irate and more agitated by the long wait."

"He got very swing-happy and started chopping up everything, including a yellow plastic 'wet floor' sign Ian held in front of him as a shield."

Smith was eventually overcome by two other customers and arrested by police. Smith, of no fixed address, was jailed for 40 months last week after admitting affray and possessing a machete and imitation firearm.

A lasting at-traction for diamond couple



Ivan and Mavis Hartshorne celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary

A FAMILY introduction was the start of a romance that blossomed into 60 years of marriage for a Cannock couple.

Ivan and Mavis Hartshorne first met after Mrs Hartshorne's step-brother Clive set the two up on a date.

They went on to have three children and six grandchildren, spending six happy decades together as man and wife.

The diamond duo, of Longford Road, got married at St Luke's Church in Cannock town centre on June 20, 1953 in a service both describe as 'beautiful'.

Former builder Ivan, now 81, went on to manage the Cottage of Content pub, Chase-town, for 16 years and enjoyed dancing and steam engines in retirement.

His labour of love, Hartshorne & Wilding Amusements, took Mr Hartshorne six painstaking years to build.

As a member of the Black Country Steamers he has exhibited all over the Midlands.



The steam engine Ivan Hartshorne built

The pair celebrated their anniversary with a family meal and by spending three days in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Mr Hartshorne remembered the day he first set eyes on his future bride.

He said: "I was walking down the street with my step-brother Clive, who was a friend of mine, when we saw Mavis walking



The couple on their wedding day

with two mates. He told me his sister was the one in the middle and I asked if he would set us up on a date."

"We got on really well and it all started from there."

"I have enjoyed every minute of it and we have had so much fun."

"You have your disagreements but you get on with it."

"Our wedding was lovely and we had a brilliant time celebrating our anniversary with family."

Mavis, also 81, said the couple's bond had always been strong.

She said: "He is very thoughtful and very helpful. We have had a wonderful married life. It is important to give and take but I really couldn't have asked for anything more."

"We have enjoyed holidays abroad and loved dancing and our steam engine which took Ivan more than six years to build."

NEWS

in brief

Three arrested over store raid

THREE men have been arrested in connection with a burglary at Morrisons, Burntwood, last month.

The men, two aged 30 and one aged 35, all from the Birmingham area, were arrested on suspicion of burglary and bailed, pending further inquiries, to a date in August.

The offenders stole money from a cash machine at the store in Milestone Way between 11.30pm and 11.40pm on May 23, before leaving in a dark-coloured BMW estate.

Guide dog fund events planned

JANET Jennings will be hosting two events in Cannock next month to raise funds for Guide Dogs for the Blind.

A coffee morning will be on Saturday July 6 at the Heath Hayes Constitutional Club, Hedgesford Road, between 10am and noon.

The following Saturday she will be holding a table-top sale at the same time and venue.

The cost is £5 per table and anyone wishing to book should call Mrs Jennings on 01543279206.

Church coffee morning date

JULY 3 is the date for the next coffee morning at a Rugeley church.

The events are held on the first Wednesday of every month at St John's Church, Slitting Mill. They start at 10.30am with the £1.50 cost including coffee, biscuits and home made cakes. There is also a raffle and bric-a-brac sale.

Strawberry tea

A STRAWBERRY tea will raise money for church funds in Rugeley. Hosted by Rev Preb Michael Newman and his wife Eileen, it takes place in the rectory at St Augustine's Church, Church Street from 4pm on Sunday, August 4 and will include a raffle.

Rambling date

CHASE & District Group Ramblers will be going on an 11-mile moderate walk around Henley-in-Arden this Sunday. Meet at Hedgesford Station car park, Anglesey Street, for a prompt 9am start. Walk leaders: John and Carol on 01543 686429.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH
MARK
ANDREWS

HOW depressing that even the Girl Guides has fallen victim to the fashionable mantra of 'inclusivity' and dropped all reference to God and country from the movement's traditional pledge.

The patriotic commitment to serving one's country has been replaced by one to the 'community'. New recruits will also pledge to "be true to myself and develop my beliefs". Who wrote this stuff? Carly Simon?

Perhaps we should be grateful they are not expected to affirm their belief in global warming.

All this, of course, is just what you might expect from an organisation which is now led by Julie Bentley, the former head of the Family Planning Association.

But she knows all about being prepared.

BAFFLED by the return of Joe Kinnear as director of football at Newcastle United, former Toon midfielder turned Twitter philosopher Joey Barton has labelled the goings-on at his old club as a 'circus sideshow'.

Now would this be the same Joey Barton whose idea of a Christmas party involves stubbing a cigar out in his teammates' eyes?

Apparently so. Other highlights of Mr Barton's career include breaking the leg of a pedestrian while driving his car, an altercation with a 15-year-old at a Bangkok Hotel, dropping his shorts at Everton fans at the end of a game, and putting his teammate Ousmane Dabo in hospital. In 2008 he was jailed for six months after admitting common assault and affray, and in 2010 he was banned by the FA for violent conduct after punching Blackburn Rovers' Morten Gamst Pedersen in the ribs.

There was also the incident during a game at Aston Villa where he celebrated a goal by raising his arm in the air and pointing to his moustache. He explained that this was because he had won a bet which meant he could now shave off his moustache.

Of course it was. I mean what else could it have meant?

Not forgetting, of course, the incident last year, where he decided to round off the season in his own inimitable style.

After being sent off for elbowing Manchester City's Carlos Têvez in the face, he decided to voice his disquiet by kicking Sergio Agüero in the back of the knee and attempting to give Vincent Kompany a Glasgow kiss.

As he was dragged off the pitch by his former team-mate Micah Richards, he attempted to square-up to that other shrinking violet, Mario Balotelli.

He was subsequently banned for 12 games by the FA and fined £75,000 after being found guilty of three charges of violent conduct.

Newcastle United a circus show? They're rank amateurs, Joey.



Visitors flock to see the Dornier 17 bomber on display at Cosford



The Dornier 17 Bomber arriving by crane at RAF Museum Cosford

Historic 'flying pencil' is poised to make its mark

The arrival of the Dornier 17 bomber plane brought back memories for war veteran Karl Bettighofer as LISA O'BRIEN explains

FOR war veteran Karl Bettighofer the arrival of the historic Dornier 17 bomber plane at RAF Cosford was an emotional experience.

The 88-year-old now lives in Wombourne but served as a navigator for the German Luftwaffe and was flying in a Dornier when it was shot down over Normandy in 1944.

Mr Bettighofer was taken as a prisoner of war by American troops.

He was at RAF Cosford recently to see the arrival of the historic bomber which has been raised from the English Channel.

Thousands of aviation fans are expected to visit the RAF Museum near Wolverhampton over the next few weeks to see the painstaking conservation work being carried out on the last surviving Dornier.

Overwhelming

It arrived at Cosford following a £500,000 recovery operation to retrieve the plane from the watery grave where it has rested for some 70 years.

For grandfather-of-four Mr Bettighofer the experience proved overwhelming, family members revealed.

Mr Bettighofer, who served as a navigator for the German Luftwaffe in the Second World War between 1942 and 1944, went to Cosford with his family. His daughter Carla Burns, aged 57, of Short Heath, Willenhall, said: "I think he was a bit overwhelmed about it coming here. He was very interested when it came on the news."

His grandson Robert Burns, 36, of Coventry, who works as a lorry driver, said: "It's so awesome to see something like this. It's nice to get a full treatment and it will be nice to see how it turns out."

After being taken a prisoner of war, Mr Bettighofer was shipped to a camp in America before being sent to Scotland to



Looking back - former German navigator Karl Bettighofer, who flew in Dornier planes, at the unloading. He now lives in Wombourne

work on farms. He settled in the UK following the war.

Mr Burns explained: "Towards the end of the war he came to Scotland. They took the prisoners of war back to Germany but his ship went in the wrong order and he was sent back. He decided to stay, got married and had two children and four grandchildren."

The Dornier was discovered after being spotted by divers in 2008 at a depth of 50ft lying on a chalk bed with a small debris field around it.

It had sank to the bottom of the Channel after being shot down by RAF fighters during the Battle of Britain. It

was one of seven aircrafts which were carrying 16 112lb bombs which it had been due to drop on the airfields in Medway, Kent. A number of staff from Cosford have been involved in the recovery project.

Darren Friday, deputy conservation centre manager at RAF Museum Cosford, was at the scene to see the plane, known as the 'flying pencil' because of its narrow fuselage, finally emerge.

He said: "It's been a long and tiring week with highs and lows. It was a huge relief to see her for the first time. It was just pure excitement."

Andy McGlynn, head of fundraising at the RAF Museum had also watched the plane emerge from the water while on a boat just over 300ft away.

He said: "There was quite a slow movement where they had to swing it round under the water to get it on the barge. It was amazing when it came out of the water. It was surreal. It looked like a prehistoric sea creature rising from the depths."

RAF technician Tony Pass, aged 62, of Essex Drive, Hednesford, was part of the nine-strong team which was sent to Kent to dismantle the German plane so it could be transported to the Midlands.

The grandfather-of-two said: "It was quite a lot of work with the state it is in. It was upside down so it was difficult. We were working all day into the evenings."

Apprentice airframe technician Ella Middleton, 19, of Copse Crescent, Pelsall, was also part of the team. She said: "We had to take bolts and parts away from each other and put the protective gel on the aircraft. Some of the work involved using hand tools."

Iconic

People have flocked to the RAF Cosford museum to catch a glimpse of the plane. Malcolm Dexter, who lives in Kenilworth Crescent, Walsall, and a former Birmingham Central Library worker, went with his wife Pat.

Mr Dexter, aged 65, said: "We saw The Mary Rose at this stage of the conservation too. We had watched it on television because it was such an iconic thing. I think lifting the Dornier off the sea bed is keeping that part of history alive for future generations."

Terence Hill, a site manager at Stow Heath Junior School, Willenhall, visited the bomber with three generations of his family.

He was with wife Kathleen Hill, who lives with him in Alamein Road, Portobello, as well as his daughter Rebecca Hickie, son-in-law David Hickey and grandchildren Froya, aged six, and Quinn, 19 months old. Mr Hill said: "It's great to see with the family."

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

A COALMAN performed a back-breaking charity stunt for hospital patients by lugging a bag of coal almost the whole way from Wolverhampton to Cannock. John Tunnicliffe, from Cannock, raised about £200 after completing the 11 mile journey in three-and-a-half hours.

TWO schoolmates were celebrating after coping top jobs in the West Midlands police force. Graham Jones and Richard Chidley were promoted to detective chief inspector and detective superintendent respectively.

BREWSTER the accident-prone mongrel was at it again after a leg injury led to yet another trip to the vets. The lovable scamp from Stourbridge cost just £3 but ran up more than £400 in vets bills during a nine month period.

1993...

WOLVERHAMPTON pensioners joined thousands of protesters from all over the country to lobby the government against proposed heating taxes. OAPs descended on London to lobby Parliament about plans to put VAT on heating bills.

A GRANDMOTHER from Wolverhampton celebrated scooping £800,000 on the football pools - thanks to advice from her 12-year-old grandson. Sixty-year-old Joan Wharton from Featherstone won the bounty after asking young Grant to pick some of her numbers.

A SCHEME to rid Wolverhampton's nightspots of violent bouncers was launched with the aim of improving the poor public image of door staff. The scheme required all 400 doormen working in the city to join a police and council-run registration programme and a training course.

2003...

AUDIENCES were left asking "Sir" for more after a village youth theatre group performed the musical Oliver in Brewod. The popular production was staged at the Jubilee Hall and featured 27 members aged between seven and 17.

WOLVERHAMPTON mayor's chauffeur Bernard Ralphs hung up his uniform for the last time after years of dedicated service. The 61-year-old from Tettenhall retired after spending nearly 33 years driving the city's civic heeds to official arrangements.

ANGRY residents in Wolverhampton were left with mountains of uncollected rubbish after hundreds of wheeled bins were left unemptied for a second time in two weeks. Overflowing bins lined the streets around Penn as crews continued to struggle with the council's new scheme.

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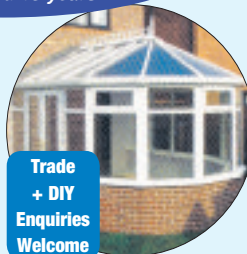
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NEWS

Bully cuts ribbon at new Aquarius



Crowds look on as Steve Bull officially opens the Aquarius Ballroom with dance instructor Colin Corbett

WOLVES legend Steve Bull cut the ribbon as Hednesford's long-awaited new community facility opened its doors. Bull carried out the official opening ceremony on Saturday at the Aquarius Ballroom in Victoria Street, alongside Latin American dance instructor Colin Corbett, one of the leading campaigners in saving the building. Hundreds of people then flooded through the doors. Its opening had been delayed by almost four months fol-

lowing a legal wrangle between the owners and St Modwen, the developers of the retail park. Vandals have also left behind a £30,000 repair bill. Groups who will hold classes at the Aquarius were also on hand to show off their activities. Yoga and Zumba demonstrations were among the activities taking place, while the Cannock Male Orpheus Choir was on hand to provide the musical backdrop for the day.

Free Toll use to beat jams

THE M6 Toll could be opened up for free when the main M6 motorway is congested, it has been revealed.

The move could go-ahead if the Government agrees to release the operators from an obligation to part-finance a link road. Midland Expressway is attempting to renegotiate its debt burden. The company has debts of £1.03bn, which mature in 2015, and as part of its 50-year concession agreement would

have to pay more than £100m towards the costs of the M54 link road if the Government decides to proceed with it.

Tailbacks

It has now emerged the firm has asked for the funding requirement to be scrapped in return for allowing cars and lorries stuck in tailbacks on the M6 to re-route to the 27-mile pay-as-you-go motorway for free. Traffic numbers on Toll Road have fallen from a peak of 55,000 a day in 2006 to a daily average of 34,310.

Cannock Council leader Councillor George Adamson said the M6 at Cannock suffered from congestion regularly and if the Government agreed to drop the commitment it would be a good deal for Midland Expressway. Councillor Janos Toth, Labour's prospective parliamentary candidate for Cannock Chase, said: "The M6 Toll road has always been far too expensive for average working people of Cannock Chase and the West Midlands. "This strikes me as nothing but a gimmick."

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LETTERS

Charter Fair was an astounding success

I HAVE been enquiring about how to pay a tribute to those who worked tirelessly in organising the Rugeley Charter Fair, also to make it locally known about a 'Royal' honour bestowed upon two of them.

I appreciate that there are many more important issues to report, however, I do feel very strongly about expressing the fact, that there are many local who are not publically recognised for their amazing efforts.

Over the past 40 years, along my wife and children, as a family and whenever possible, always delighted in supporting local events... charities, Christmas gatherings, sporting and others, such

as the Charter Fair. From an article in your promotion of the fair, I saw that our newly appointed council chairman, Councillor John Rowley, no doubt along with many who this tribute is aimed at, played a significant part.

I was astounded at the excellence of everything associated with the day, it is my opinion that this was, most certainly, the greatest Charter Fair I have ever attended. My comments are based on experience of such matters, having been born and brought up in Blackpool with its Pleasure Beach Fairground. Rugeley's Charter Fair had rides which compared favourably with those.

To see families, mothers, fathers, grandparents

and, of course, children being naturally happy, expressed the true nature of Rugeley. Well done all of you who played a part in bringing to our town this fantastic event, supported and monitored so expertly by the police, first aiders and security teams.

Along with this tribute, people should be aware that Councillor Rowley and his wife, were honoured by being invited to the recent Royal Garden Party attended by The Queen. What an honour! Rugeley should be proud.

Again, my thanks to all.
DR GARY BUTLER
Etchinghill, Rugeley

Wonderful experience at the wheel

INTERESTING to read your article about Carol Trigg (Chronicle June 13). I also experienced the event for the first time at Seighford. Stafford Advanced Motorist Group, in association with Stafford Action for The Blind, made the day possible and places were available for a fortunate 20.

It was a wonderful occasion blessed with glorious weather, and driving two modern automatic cars round three laps of the circuit, accompanied by Advanced Motorists, but having total control, was exhilarating. Add to that the opportunity to be a passenger in an array of vintage and high-powered cars, and the day was complete.

The organisers were all volunteers and nothing was too much trouble for them - they were brilliant. It was a free event for people with sight disability, accompanied by friends and relatives. Can't wait for the next one.

PAT COOPER
Fallowfield,
Cannock

Academy protest is not scaremongering

THE passion shown by the parents who attended a meeting about the possibility Norton Canes and Heath Hayes junior schools may become forced academies was remarkable and shows the great levels of support that these schools get.

I could not disagree more with Aidan Burley's response to this meeting, slamming it as "shameful scaremongering" by dedicated head teachers and governors. If he had bothered to turn up he would know that all that was discussed was information that was already in the public domain.

It shows the little faith he has in the ability of parents to judge for themselves the information they were given, it shows his contempt for the teaching profession.

The MP said the headteachers should have known better than to have organised the "highly politicised" meeting. Mr Burley, you were invited, this was no one-sided closed shop. Norton Canes and Heath Hayes between them have two Conservative district councillors, the cabinet member for education at Staffordshire County Council is a Conservative and both Norton Canes and Heath Hayes parish councils have Tory members - where were they? The community is angry that academisation is being threatened on their schools without any choice or consultation.

JOHN PREECE, Pool Avenue, Norton Canes

Thanks to dedicated nurses

I RECENTLY had to have a short spell at Walsall Manor Hospital and would like to say how much I appreciated the good food and the dedication of the nurses on Ward 1/3.

Some of their patients were difficult and aggressive but they had the patience of Job to carry on and do what needed to be done despite all this. This is a side of nursing that not all of us see, unless we are as I was - on the inside looking out! It takes a love of the job that must be there - we tend to forget this at times. A big thank you to all the nurses I met. At 85 years, I need all the care I can get.

MICHAEL MILES, Burntwood

This is £400,000 well spent

I WOULD just like to comment on J O'Leary's letter. I am just a resident of Hednesford with no political persuasion, whose family have lived and worked in Hednesford for about 132 years. Many of my family were employed in the local mines.

J O'Leary perhaps should find out a little about The Museum of Cannock Chase then he might realise why it is where it is, it is on the original site of The Valley Colliery so does not require being moved closer to town, however adding a bus stop at the bottom of Valley Road would be a good idea.

He could have made the same call that I did to ascertain that while there may be money set aside for a full size running track and that a number of sites are being considered, Hednesford Park is definitely not one. J O'Leary could have looked on Cannock Chase Council's website (Cannock Chase

Council Cabinet 21 June 2012 Report) and found out that the £400,000 is made up of £300,000, which is to regenerate three town centres Hednesford, Rugeley and Cannock, and £100,000 that was part of the Mary Portas fund. Rugeley is to get it's miners memorial, which is capped at £68,000. Another £50,000 goes to Cannock and Rugeley to regenerate their bus stations and £132,000 was to improve and enhance Hednesford and Cannock town centres.

The other £50,000 for Rugeley conservation area was to be matched by the English Heritage fund and there could possibly be more subject to the commitment of property owners. I think that is £400,000 well spent.

So please, J O'Leary, take a few minutes to find out details before rocking the boat.
CINDY FAULKNER,
Shaftsbury Drive, Hednesford

LETTERS

to the Editor

POST

Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial, 51-53
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

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expressandstar.co.uk

Correct signs would help

ONE of the solutions to the traffic problems at the recent RAF Cosford Air Show would have been correct signage, which could have shortened the six-mile tailback on the M54. A sign read: "Air show traffic use hard shoulder" suggesting that was the only lane to use. However, the nearside and outside lanes were almost traffic free until the slip road, where two lanes for the show were then formed.

FRANCIS HUNT
Burntwood

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NEWS

Leisure venues are now running into profit

LEISURE centres in South Staffordshire are generating enough money to cover their costs for the first time.

South Staffordshire Council says its four leisure centres – Wombourne, Cheslyn Hay, Penkridge and Codsall – brought in a combined total above their overall running costs in 2012/13.

It means extra income earned as

profit can be put towards other local services. The authority attributed the change to its partnering of centres with schools, allowing the centres to retain services while sharing the cost of maintenance.

Councillor Mary Bond, cabinet member for environmental services, said: "In the past few years we have

changed the way we think about leisure centres. By aligning them to local schools, this means we are sharing some of the costs and ensuring they are sustainable.

"The fact they now cover their running costs is not only good news for the council, but for the thousands of local people who use them regularly."

Animal centre picks up its third tourist award



David Riley and Billy the goat celebrate the college's award

AN ANIMAL centre in Penkridge has been named one of the region's best tourist attractions.

The Animal Zone at South Staffordshire College's Rodbaston Campus has picked up the Quality Rose Marque for the third year running.

It was given the award by the national tourist board VisitEngland.

The assessment given to the animal centre looked at all aspects of the visitor experience.

These ranged from the welcome, quality of the visitor experience, customer service in the on-site café and shop, to how easy it is to leave the car park for the journey home.

Displaying

Jo Allan, head of customer services at the college, said: "The Quality Rose Marque is a badge of quality, which reassures visitors that they will have an enjoyable and memorable experience during their visit."

"It also acknowledges all the hard work that goes into making sure all areas are as good as they can be."

"We will be displaying the plaque in a prominent place for the public and staff to see."

The Animal Zone enjoyed a record summer in 2012, welcoming more than 19,000 visitors through its doors.

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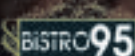
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NEWS

Pensioners' seaside trip

PENSIONERS head off on their annual seaside outing on August 5. Rugeley and Brereton Senior Citizens will travel to Weston Super Mare. Anyone over the age of 68 living in the Rugeley and Brereton electoral areas is eligible. Several pick-up points have been arranged with the first one at 8am. The cost is £6 or £7 for adult carers who may be younger than 68. Carers must accompany wheelchair users. Tickets are on sale from 10am to noon on July 2 and 4 at the Rose Theatre, Taylors Lane, or on July 13 at Brereton Carnival.

Slimline tonic after couple in joint quest



Wendy and Kenny before the joint weight-loss pact

A HUSBAND and wife couple took on a joint quest to lose weight and shed more than six stones between them in six months.

Wendy and Kenny Beardmore decided to become slimmers together after Wendy was forced to visit the doctor following problems with blood pressure and the GP advised her to lose weight.

The 49-year-old from Wimblesbury, decided to sign up for WeightWatchers and was given extra incentive by Kenny - who had also decided to trim down.

Portion

Now Walsall-based dental nurse Wendy has gone from 12st 8lb to 9st 8lb since November - beating her own initial target of slimming down to 9st 13lb.

Health and safety consultant Kenny, aged 55, went from more than 15st 4lb to 12st during the same period.

They have cut down on ready meals and reduced their portion sizes to help with the diet. More importantly the couple who have been together for 24 years

made sure there is a more stable three meals a day which includes porridge, fresh fruit and cereals for breakfast and chicken salad wrap for lunch.

Dishes of fish, pork and chicken breast are also regulars for an evening meal.

The couple, who have two children and two grandchildren, have always been active and enjoy cycling.

Wendy said: "We have managed to achieve it together because we support each other and we have support from the classes."

"For me personally, it was a health issue, my blood pressure was starting to rise. The doctor recommended I lose some weight and my husband decided to come along with me."

"Kenny knew he needed to lose weight and we decided if we were going to do it we would do it together. We were still fairly fit and active, it was just not eating correctly. We feel fantastic now."

Kenny added: "After the initial weigh-in my wife and I discussed a plan which included both of us 'policing' each other's eating habits and also taking exercise."



The slimline couple following their weight-loss

NEWS

Tasha beats thousands to reach singing finals



A SONGBIRD from Norton Canes has only a few weeks to prepare herself to sing to a crowd of thousands of people at London's O2 arena after getting through to the finals of a national competition.

Tasha Blundell has made it to the last stage of the Teen Star singing competition, beating off thousands of hopefuls.

The 13-year-old, of Jackson Close, will be competing in the 13 to 15-year-old category on July 7.

The Chase Terrace Technology College pupil, who goes by the stage name Tasha Jerawan, has previously performed to raise money towards Rosie's Helping Hands which raises money in memory of the Aldridge teenager Rosie Ross, and also the Mayor of Walsall's charity appeal.

She said: "I'm really excited. I can't wait. I've chosen my song and I'll be doing a reworked version of These Days by Maverick Sabre. I've changed it to more of a soul song."

Prouder

"I've had some great feedback from judges in the past. It puts me on a massive high. I feel like I'm on cloud nine."

The youngster had to perform on four separate occasions to get to the final and won the regional heats for Liverpool, Manchester and the West Midlands at Huddersfield.

Her father, project manager Steve, 38, said: "I couldn't be prouder. She gives 110 per cent to her singing and her school work."

"She's awesome. Her friends and family will be going down to watch her in the finals. We didn't even know she could sing until she was six and she was asked by a teacher to get up in church and sing a Christmas song. Since then, she's entered lots of talent competitions."

The youngster will also be performed during an Armed Forces Day event in Nottingham on June 29 and at Brownhills Music Festival on August 17.

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NEWS

Restaurant now plans an annual fundraiser

AN award-winning Indian restaurant is to host a charity event every summer following its latest success.

The Dilshad, in Cannock Road, Chads Moor, hosted a grand reopening charity event on June 17 raising £715 for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Owner Tony Uddin said he had received fantastic feedback from guests and now plans to stage an annual summer charity event.

The event was held to celebrate the reopening of his new 100 seater restaurant and to raise funds for the hospital.

He said: "It was such a memorable evening and I have received so many phone calls and emails following the event from people who went along and said they had a fantastic time."

Fantastic

"We wanted to celebrate the reopening of the new look restaurant and raise money for charity at the same time."

"Everyone was so generous on the night purchasing raffle tickets and we managed to raise a fantastic amount of £715 for Birmingham Children's Hospital which is such a fantastic cause. I would also like to thank local businesses for donating raffle prizes on the night."

"The event was such a success that we are now planning to stage an annual summer charity event," he added.

The restaurant reopened at the end of last year following a £50,000 refurbishment but didn't have an official reopening so Mr Uddin decided to



From left; Dilshad head waiter Shabul Miah, entertainer David St John, owner Tony Uddin and floor manager Abdul Jabar

stage an event and raise money at the same time.

David St John, a local comedian and entertainer compered the evening and entertained the guests with his unique brand of comedy.

Diners were treated to a complimentary three-course meal and drinks as they enjoyed the evening. At the end of the night some of the diners took to the stage to take part in karaoke. Raffle

prizes were donated by Bar Sport and the Premier Suite. The Barns in Huntington donated a £20 meal voucher as did the Bridgehouse hotel and restaurant in Penkridge. The Dilshad also gave away a meal for two.

Broom's Stores in Chads Moor donated a bottle of champagne and Trevor Wright of T.W. Transport donated a bottle of Jack Daniels whiskey.

Rosemary Lodge

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NEWS

Cadets pack up help for responders



CFR group co-ordinator Vicky Cahill and volunteers from the Hednesford Girls Venture Corps Air Cadets

AIR cadets flew to the aid of the Burntwood and District Community First Responders to make sure they will on the road for the foreseeable with a dual fundraising drive.

Members of Hednesford's Girls Venture Corps Air Cadets joined the first responders for a supermarket bag pack at Morrisons, Burntwood.

More than £400 was raised to help pay for fuel and the maintenance costs of the team's response vehicle.

The team of three volunteers responds to medical emer-

gencies in the area in an effort to assist injured people before an ambulance arrives.

First Responder Eddie Malpass said: "I would like to say a big thank you to the Girls Venture Corps Air Cadets for their outstanding efforts during the day."

"I would also like to thank Morrisons in Burntwood for their continued support and of course the local community. Their support and generous donations really could help to save lives."

Blitz on insurance dodgers

AROUND 200 cars have been seized in the past five weeks under a police crackdown on insurance dodgers.

Police and crime commissioner Matthew Ellis warned the blitz would continue. Signs have gone up at petrol forecourts as a warning.

Owners could have their cars scrapped as part of the new measures, which come after Cannock was identified as a hotspot for cars without insurance.

Mr Ellis said The zero-tolerance approach of Cars Behind Bars had proved popular. He said: "Motorists

who don't insure their vehicles and drive them on our roads are totally irresponsible and cost the rest of us money through rising premiums.

"These law breakers have nowhere to hide. Insurance dodgers are being caught and dealt with, having their cars seized and, in some cases, scrapped."

Message

Mr Ellis has said he would call for cheaper prices for Staffordshire people if the number of uninsured drivers on the roads fell significantly.

He added: "The operation will continue and will give out the message

that crime of any sort will not be tolerated in Staffordshire."

As part of the campaign, petrol pump signs have been put in place at Sainsbury's forecourt in Cannock.

It is believed around 48,000 drivers will have used the branded pumps in the past four weeks.

Offenders who get behind the wheel without insurance are being tracked through automatic number plate recognition technology in force across Staffordshire.

Images of cars that have been seized during the crackdown are put online at www.staffordshire.police.uk/cars-behind-bars

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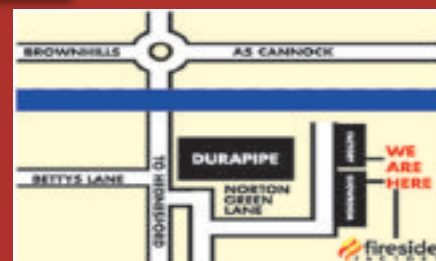
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CLUB NEWS

Donation made to hospice

BURNWOOD WI

THE wonderful singing of Jerusalem opened the last meeting which was very well attended.

Cakes and wine were given by Jane Robinson to celebrate her Golden wedding anniversary. Minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

The rescheduled men's supper held in May was a fabulous night enjoyed by all and the club received a lovely complimentary letter from "a husband" who attended. A collection for the Teenage Cancer Trust has raised £126.

Speaker for the evening was Julie Beaton a "volunteer ambassador" for the Donna Louise Children's Hospice, know as Treetops, which provides a range of specialist care and support for children with a shortened life expectancy and for their families.

There was a slide show that showed how the hospice came to be, the site it was on and the building of it.

Julie told of the many children who attended the hospice and their stories. It was a very informative and emotional presentation. A closing collection was held and will be sent to the trust.

Ron Box represented the club at the national AGM and gave a report of the day's events.

The competition for a decorated wooden spoon was won by Joan Marson, and Ron's thought for the month ended an enjoyable evening.

Walkers supported every step of the way



Ted Bell, Peter Sharpe and Brian Homewood end up back at Lichfield Cathedral

LICHFIELD ROTARY CLUB

LICHFIELD Rotary Club successfully completed a sponsored walk in aid of Donna Louise Children's Hospice Trust, raising more than £5,000.

The three core walkers, who completed every single step of the 118 miles in seven days, were Peter Sharpe, Brian Homewood and Ted Bell. Congratulations to all the other walkers who joined them for various stages. Other members and supporters helped by transporting walkers to and from the hostels, some even visited the pubs to drink beer. The walk faithfully followed the

route described in Bob Bibby's book "The Staffordshire Cakes and Ale Trail - 100 miles of challenging country walking".

One of the big pluses was the support from, and fellowship with, other Rotary Clubs along the way.

The Rotary Club of Lichfield also owes a great debt of gratitude to the many sponsors who helped raise such a large amount.

Historian's grave subject

SECRETARY Sue Evans gave details of the minutes of the Federation meeting and AGM, held in Walsall on April 23.

The National Conference is taking place in Harrogate, and the Cannock club delegate will be Sandra McLeod. She asked the group to con-

CANNOCK TOWNSWOMEN

sider the proposed mandates, a ballot and show of hands was taken so Sandra could vote in accordance with members' wishes. Ian Bott, a local historian and

published author was the speaker for the evening. He gave a talk on Black Country graveyards.

There were slides of memorial inscriptions and headstones, including well known names such as Sister Dora and fairground proprietor Pat Collins.

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MEMORY LANE



The Bridge, Walsall, showing the original 18th century George Hotel, left. Nothing survives of this scene



Walsall District General - Sister Dora - Hospital, Wednesbury Road, around 1896. It was demolished for modern apartments



Walsall Science and Art Institute, Bradford Place, circa 1896. The building is now being used as offices



The Old Woolpack, a Tudor pub in Walsall High Street, demolished in 1892, replaced by shops

Peeking into past with town's picture album

AT WALSALL Local History Centre we hold thousands of local photographs, from the early 1860s to the present day.

Such collections are obviously the first place to look for historic images. But it's easy to forget that there is another rich source of fascinating photographs - old books.

From the late Victorian era, when photography was hugely popular, there was a fashion for books to be published focusing on towns, counties, or local worthies and businesses.

Many included photos, some of a very high standard, given the limitations on print quality at the time.

Books like town guides were a matter of civic pride, and these as well as others such as trade directories, albums promoting local places and businesses, and yet more commemorating events, are all worth looking at for that rare historic picture.

by Stuart Williams

One particularly interesting local book is *The Walsall Album*, published by William Henry Robinson in 1898. It showcases numerous buildings which were already historic in Victorian times. Many have long since disappeared or have changed use and/or appearance today.

Thanks to Mr Robinson, a prominent local journalist, newspaper editor, printer, publisher, author, astronomer and leading light of the Walsall Literary Institute, some extraordinary images of Walsall, Bloxwich, Rushall and Great Barr have been preserved in his books.

These are through photographs commissioned by him, a few of which, taken by Draycott of Walsall, are reproduced here.

The *Walsall Album* also offers a fascinating slice of industrial and business life around the town in the many full-page advertisements which alternate with the photo-

graphs it reproduces. While Walsall is rightly famous for its saddlery trade, it becomes quickly obvious, when reading this book and others, that it was just one of many in the 'Town of a Hundred Trades'.

Remarkable books such as this and *South Staffordshire Illustrated* (c1899), *Walsall Past and Present* (1905), the *Walsall Red Books* (1872-1939), and more, offer a fascinating insight into how the Victorians saw themselves as well as revealing many sadly lost townscapes. All are waiting for readers to rediscover amongst the thousands of historic volumes preserved in the Local Studies Library at Walsall Local History Centre.

Prints of pictures shown and thousands more are available to purchase by special order, as well as a wide range of books, from Walsall Local History Centre.

For local and family history, drop into the centre in Essex Street, which is part of Walsall Council. Telephone 01922 721305.



The Grand Theatre, corner of Park Street and Station Street, circa 1896. Superdrug stands on the spot today

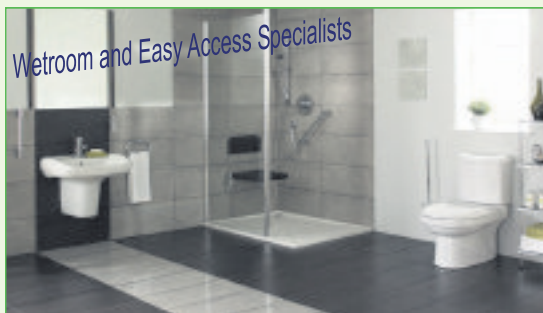


Bridge Street Congregational Chapel, Bridge Street, Walsall, circa 1896. It was demolished to make way for a 1960s office building

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NEWS

Diabetic pupil stopped from sleepover on trip

A SCHOOLBOY who suffers from diabetes was not allowed to stay on a two-night residential trip because teachers did not want to be responsible for his health-care, it has been claimed.

Lewis Sherwood, who was eight at the time, had to return home to Shreshill each evening rather than join in the fun of an overnight stay with his friends.

His parents Andy and Zoe Sherwood pointed out the family home in East Road, Brinsford, was less than a mile from the residential base in Coven if a problem were to arise.

They are now taking Havergal C of E Primary to a tribunal, being heard today, over alleged disability discrimination.

The school said its priority was the health and wellbeing of the child.

Checked

Mr Sherwood, a 42-year-old former construction site manager, said his son had previously spent several nights away with the cub scouts without any problems.

The trip in January was first raised last September. But at a meeting on December 3, staff told the family they were 'uncomfortable' about taking responsibility for Lewis' overnight care and asked that he be picked up at the end of each day.

Mr Sherwood said: "We were flabbergasted. He only needs to be checked once in the night. We tried to reassure them but they wouldn't be moved."

"As a compromise, they suggested he could stay if one of us stayed with him in a separate room away from his friends,"

Lewis, now nine, who was diagnosed



No sleepover . . . Lewis Sherwood with his parents Andy and Zoe

with type 1 diabetes when he was four, began to refuse his food after the disappointment. He went on the trip but had to be picked up each evening by his father.

The youngster has since been moved to neighbouring Whitgreave Primary, Featherstone, and spent two nights away with his new school pals.

Carol Watson, head of Havergal, said she was unable to comment on individual cases.

"However, our priority is always the health and well-being of the child and where a pupil has a pre-existing medical condition we always undertake a risk assessment prior to residential school trips," she said.

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NEWS

Two men are bailed over robbery at village bank

TWO MEN have been bailed after a £25,000 knife-point robbery. The pair, both aged in their 30s and from the Wolverhampton area, were apprehended in Brewood after a raid at Barclays Bank in Penkridge on Friday.

A masked man confronted a G4S guard as he left the bank, threatening him with the blade before making a getaway. The guard was returning to his van, on the corner of Crown Bridge Road at around 11.30am.

A Seat Altea, used as a getaway car, has also been recovered abandoned and burnt out in a field in Penkridge.

Detectives are continuing their inquiries into the robbery and anyone with information should ring Staffordshire Police on 101, quoting incident number 295 of June 21.

Businesses take up offer of discount rates scheme

Report by Catherine Dalton

THIRTEEN businesses have taken advantage of an incentive scheme to move into empty shop units across Cannock, Hednesford and Rugeley, it emerged this week.

The business rates discount scheme was launched by Cannock Chase Council in September last year.

Chamber's backing for trade talks



Chamber boss Chris Plant

CHASE business leaders have backed free trade negotiations between the European Union and the United States.

Chris Plant, director of the Chamber of Commerce, said: "British businesses want to compete across the globe, and will welcome the start of free trade negotiations with the United States, one of our biggest trading partners."

"We believe a broad and deep free trade agreement between the EU and the US could have significant benefits for the UK economy."

"UK ministers must now keep an eye on the national interest in these negotiations, bearing in mind Britain's existing and deep trade ties to the US."

"They must issue 'forward guidance' to business - keeping companies, particularly exporters to the US, up-to-date on when they can expect easier access to American market."

Charity fashion show will launch new range

A FASHION show to launch a new clothing range is being held, with the proceeds going to charity.

The event is being held to promote new products from Glitz Bits, including bespoke jewellery and party accessories. Entry is free.

It takes place at Old Wyrley Hall, in Olde Hall Lane, Great Wyrley, from 7pm on Tuesday, July 2.

More details are available from Ryan on 07557 336668.

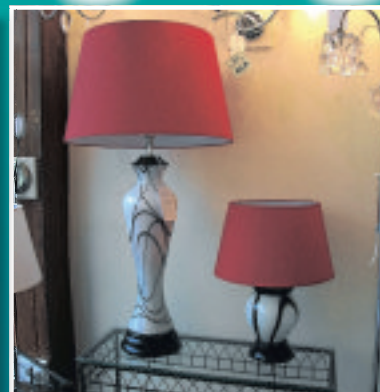
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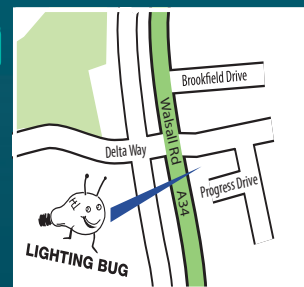
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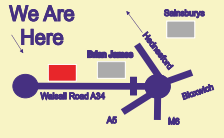
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NEWS

Village fun run set to attract a record number

ENTRIES have been flooding in for this weekend's Penkridge Fun Run, with a record number set to take part. Sunday's event starts at 11am as part of the annual Penkridge Fun Day, taking place at the Haling Dene

Centre, Cannock Road. Elliot Goodbody, chairman of the organisers, Penkridge & District Round Table, said: "It's already looking likely that we'll have more runners than in previous years." The Fun Run covers a two-

and-a-half-mile circular village route, while the Fun Day will have more than 35 side stalls hosted by village groups and organisations, with live entertainment, fairground rides, facepainting, licensed bar, and barbecue.

Scheme for privatisation of nurseries under attack

OPPONENTS have hit out at plans to privatise seven Staffordshire nurseries putting up to 150 jobs at risk, saying the move was a cut too far.

The Unison union claims redundancies are 'very likely' under Staffordshire County Council's proposals.

Hundreds of parents in the county could face paying more in nursery fees as the authority looks to transfer the running of children's centres to two companies in a bid to save £800,000 a year.

The council is in final negotiations with Stafford Kids Club and Tiny Toes to run nurseries, including one in Cannock.

Answers

Steve Elsey, branch secretary of Unison in Staffordshire, condemned the plan. "What isn't clear is that how by privatising this service that the council will save £800,000," he said.

"We need firm answers. If the council says it is losing too much money, then how do they expect private companies to run the service?"

"Job losses are very likely and by doing this the council washes its hands of respon-

by Rob Gollidge

sibility of providing childcare in our most vulnerable and deprived areas. It is a cut too far."

Cannock Chase Council leader Councillor George Adamson claimed the county was 'obsessed' with privatisation. He said: "The council wants to privatise everything. These children's centres are well run and provide a valuable service."

The centres currently offer hourly rates but that is set to be replaced by a new pricing and care structure.

Around 150 staff will be transferred to the new companies but jobs could be lost.

County councillor Robert Marshall, cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said the service was running at a loss, and would be unsustainable unless an agreement was secured.

Apprentice Dan shows just why he was hired



Dan Crabtree has been awarded Apprentice of the Year

A 22-YEAR-OLD administrator from Cannock has been named Apprentice of the Year. Dan Crabtree, who works at Ide Systems on Swaffield Park, was presented with the award by In-Comms Training & Business Services at a ceremony held at Walsall Football Club.

He has been working with the company, which specialises in the manufacture, sale and rental of temporary and emergency power distribution equipment, for two years. He started his career in workshop and signed up to a six-month management course with In-Comms Training and Business Services in September to improve his skills and knowledge.

Fantastic

Since then he has worked his way to the top and now manages the administration and the day-to-day running of the company's rental department.

He said: "Working at Ide has been fantastic for me as I have been able to study for my management course while getting practical experience. I am now using everything I have learned to work towards becoming depot manager of the rental department."

Ide Systems has worked on a number of projects including the Euro Football Championships in Portugal, the G8 Summit in Scotland, PGA golf tournaments and the London 2012 Olympics.

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NEWS

Use lifts plea after escalator accidents



The escalators in Cannock Shopping Centre where accidents have been rife

CANNOCK Chase Council is urging more people to use lifts rather than escalators following a series of accidents in the district.

Investigations by the council's food and safety team found one in five accidents that occurred to members of the public between 2011 and 2013, involved an escalator.

Concerns over the number of incidents prompted health and safety investigations, which proved there was no fault with the escalator itself.

Awareness

The majority of accidents involved people over the age of 75 with limited mobility or a medical condition.

In all cases an ambulance attended and the most serious injury was a broken arm.

Now Cannock Shopping Centre, in conjunction with the council, is aiming to improve awareness of escalator safety, and has installed new floor signs guiding people on how to use them safely and directing them to the nearest lift. Natal Chapman,

Report by Charlotte Lilley

shopping centre manager, said: "Lifts are provided as an alternative in our shopping centre where there is an escalator and I would urge residents in poor health, using a walking aid, with a buggy or even just carrying heavy or bulky shopping bags to make full use of them."

Members of the food and safety team will be distributing posters encouraging people to step into a lift or escalator safely.

Councillor Muriel Davis, health and well-being portfolio leader, said: "We are concerned about the number of accidents and want people to be aware of the risks so they can make an informed choice and use a lift or escalator safely."

Shoppers Jean and Alec Bate, both 79, say they do not have problems using the escalators. Mr Bate, who uses a walking stick, said: "I find I am well balanced on it and haven't had a problem."

Florence Martin, who travels from Stafford to shop with her friend Pamela Cooper, said: "I don't find that I have many problems."



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Councillors hail success of discount rates scheme

A SCHEME encouraging businesses in Rugeley to expand into empty retail units has been hailed a success by Cannock Chase District Council.

The Town Centre Business Rates Discount Scheme, introduced last September, has supported businesses including Creature Comforts pet shop on Market Street, C Residential Estate Agency on Upper Brook Street, and Three Wishes card shop on Lower Brook Street.

The council has funded the scheme from a £100,000 grant from the government's High Street Innovation Fund and has also helped businesses in Cannock and Hednesford to rejuvenate their town centres.

Councillor Diane Todd, town centre regeneration portfolio leader, said: "The council has had a lot of positive feedback from the businesses we have helped."

Group looks back at 1953

THE Landor (Local History) Society of Rugeley is taking its 'Looking back on 1953' display to the Brereton Parish Hall next month.

The July 13 display will look back at events during the Queen's coronation year as well as the group's formation and the Queen Mother's visit to Blithfield Reservoir.

Town centre improvements could help small businesses

RUGELEY could benefit from £200,000 in funding after Cannock Chase Council announced plans to make significant investments in the town centre.

It will receive £100,000 from a joint investment programme between the district and county councils. Half of this will be spent on environmental improvements including new bins, cleaning and painting.

The other half will be used to match an additional investment of £50,000 from English Heritage to improve conservation areas and buildings.

A further £50,000 will also be invested to improve the town centre's planters and floral displays, add more cycle racks and replace broken pavements and road signs.

Customers

Councillor Diane Todd, Cannock Chase Council's town centre regeneration portfolio leader, said: "These additional investments are intended to help rejuvenate Rugeley town centre and bring in more customers."

"The town has excellent sport and leisure facilities now and Cannock Chase Council wants to make improvements in the town centre to help small businesses."

The investments follow an agreement between the council and Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust, which runs leisure services in

by Charlotte Lilley

Cannock Chase. More than £600,000 has already been spent creating a new health and fitness suite at Rugeley Leisure Centre and a further £96,000 on a new playing surface on the artificial turf pitch.

The council has also set aside £68,000 to fund a miners' memorial in memory of the workers who lost their lives in Lea Hall and Brereton Collieries.

A planning application has been submitted to put the memorial on Globe Island and the funds will be released if it is approved.

Mark Winnington, Staffordshire County Council's cabinet member for economy and infrastructure, said: "Further improving Rugeley town centre will help to draw in additional investment and visitors."

"We look forward to working with Cannock Chase Council on future developments in the district."



Lorraine Boothman who will step down as Rotary Club president on July 1

Rotary's chairman ends year

RUGELEY Rotary Club president Lorraine Boothman is to step down from her role next week.

Mrs Boothman will hand over the reins to Margaret Jones on July 1.

During her year-long stint as president she has been involved with many charity events including a golf tournament which raised more than £200 for the First Responders, a shoebox collection for children in Eastern Europe, the collection of thousands of tents left behind at the V Festival and the Santa sleigh tour.

She said: "It has been a great year and I have enjoyed every minute of it."

"The club has continued with many of its traditional activities and I am looking forward to the year ahead and taking part in other activities which the club is organising."

For more about the club visit www.rugeleyrotary.org.uk

Cadets are flying high as funding is granted

A GROUP of cadets from Rugeley are flying high after being granted more than £10,000 to gain training.

The National Lottery funding will go towards the costs of running BTEC courses in Aviation Studies and Public Services for Rugeley's local Air Cadet Squadron (1871) based at Taylors Lane.

The 30 cadets will be able to sit the vocational qualification which are seen as an equivalent to GCSEs.

Using laptops and state-of-the-art digital projection equipment bought with the windfall, the cadets can learn all the necessary information in their own time.

The Squadron is recruiting volunteer instructors and youngsters aged 13 to 17 who meet on a Monday or Thursday from 7-9.30pm.

For more information visit www.1871squadron.co.uk or email 1871@aircadets.org

Rugby club's training day

RUGELEY Rugby Club starts its pre-season training this weekend.

They get under way at St Augustine's Field, Station Road, at 1.30pm on Saturday. For more information call 07889 088558 or visit www.pitchero.com/club/s/rugeley

INDOOR OUTDOOR



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NEWS

Claire makes splash with national call-up



Claire Nixon, aged 19 from Churchbridge, will represent GB in the world water polo championships in Spain

A TOP water polo player has been chosen to represent Great Britain at the World Championships in Barcelona next month. Nineteen-year-old Claire Nixon from Churchbridge who has already been selected for the Junior World Championships in Greece in August.

"It's going to be a fantastic summer," said the talented centre-back who missed out on being part of the Olympic squad last year. "It was tough coming back from that disappointment but the hard work has paid off," she said.

The former Great Wyrley High pupil moved to Manchester, where the GB water polo squad is based, at 16, combining training with studying for her A-Levels.

GB are drawn against Olympic champions USA, Canada and world champions Greece. The first game is on July 21. Claire, whose family live in Walsall Road, up water polo at the age of 12 at a friend's suggestion.

Plea to MPs ahead of key vote on HS2

CAMPAIGNERS against HS2 made an 11th hour plea to MPs ahead of a crunch vote on the controversial scheme in the Commons.

Villagers from Colton, near Rugeley, warn the £33 billion project will cost £1,700 per person in the UK and that its business case is deeply flawed.

In a letter to every MP they slam the government's plan as a 'scandalous waste of money'.

MPs were set to vote on a 'paying' bill yesterday (Wednesday) which would release an unlimited amount of cash for preparation works for the high speed line, including the paying out of compensation.

Illogical

Legislation to approve construction will be heard later in the year.

In the letter, David Leech, chairman of Colton Against HS2 action group, said: "While accepting the urgent need to upgrade the UK's ageing rail network, the imposition of an entirely new line which takes little account of this need is illogical."

"It is likely that, as resources are diverted to the construction and running of HS2, we shall see the pro-

by Rob Gollidge

gressive deterioration of existing local and intercity lines, many of which are in dire need of upgrading.

"This will seriously impact on the experience of the majority of rail users for whom a 15 minute decrease in travelling time to the capital is irrelevant."

Around 40 MPs were expected to rebel during the vote - including Jeremy Lefroy of Stafford and Stone's Bill Cash.

But Lichfield MP Michael Fabricant will vote in favour despite being opposed to the project and even resigning the government whip to fight it.

He said he would back the bill to release compensation payments to constituents but would reject laws giving permission for work to start if the line was not moved.

Troops' free leisure pass

SOLDIERS from across the Chase will continue to receive free access to the town's sports facilities. Councillors have backed plans to maintain free passes for all those that serve in the armed forces. Last year more than 120 personnel took up the opportunity to use the free pass and even encouraged family members to sign up using a concessionary pass. Council Leader George Adamson said: "It's a small touch but it's nice to see that we are able to help people who risk their lives for us and the country."

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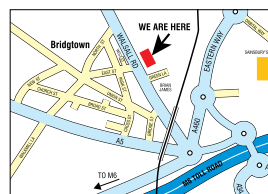
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Rachael has been established for twenty five years, and is a previous employee of a salon adjacent to Tesco at Heath Hayes. Rachael adds "A hairstyle, is one of your best assets and needs to suit you and your personality, whether its a complete change or a modification to your existing style." Emporium Salon incorporates modern design with professional 5 star service in an enjoyable friendly atmosphere. At Emporium we cater for all your hair and beauty requirements under one roof and also have a wedding dress and prom dress service to either hire or buy whichever suits. We are also consultants for Cambridge weight loss and forever living so pop down and book your appointment today. We are proud to be involved in the makeover of the Cannock Carnival Queen and are currently specialising in prom hair on Fridays.

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Best of Beauty

FLUTTERBYS HAIR & BEAUTY

Hannah opened Flutterbys two years ago and has been in the beauty industry for seven years. As well as being a full working salon Flutterbys is also a Training Academy for up and coming beauty therapists, courses include educating for Young Nails offering training on Manicures, Pedicures, Nail extensions and Gel polish, Hannah also offers training for the Celebrity Range of products these include Individual lashes, Spray tanning and Celebrity Brows.

Flutterbys is a beautifully decorated and relaxed salon offering a full range of treatments including a wide range of Hair products and treatments and stylist Clare offers

Micro ring and Cold Fusion bonds and Vanessa and Natalie specialise in Hair ups for that special occasion All stylists are fully qualified and experienced for peace of mind. Call today to find out more information on the full range of treatments we offer.

THE PERFECT BUFF

The Perfect Buff is beauty therapy salon run by Rachael Evans. Rachael has over ten years experience in the beauty industry and over the years she has achieved a high level of expert and useful knowledge to help you feel and look your best. Rachael prides herself on giving a warm and friendly service that

will eventually blossom into a trusting professional relationship.

Rachael has now invested in a Caci Non surgical facelift used by the stars such as Jennifer Lopez and is offering an introductory trial offer for this treatment of just £20. Feel free to call and discuss anytime see our advertisement for details.

THE WORXS

Stefanie Daniels opened for business in 2008 and has sixteen years experience in the Beauty industry and offers Hair and beauty all under one roof.

The Worxs are full stockists of Fake Bake products and O.P.I Nail products and all of there sunbeds meet new government legislation with the latest up to date tubes to ensure your safety.

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NEWS

Enterprise scheme helps smooth path to business

Stepping up to challenge



Tracey Hulse, front, with colleagues who took part in the challenge

STAFF from a Tesco store in Brownhills has put their best foot forward to raise money for Diabetes UK.

Most workers stepped up to the challenge of completing 90,000 steps in just two days all in aid of the charity, but impressed even themselves by doubling the total using pedometers and gym equipment donated by Fitness First.

As they climbed the never ending stairs, customers, friends and family donated hundreds of pounds towards their total of £1,200. Manager

Nicole Brittain said: "All the staff were really looking forward to the challenge despite the ambitious distance, but we were all very happy with the result."

Tracey Hulse, better services manager, said: "The response from the public was brilliant, but I think most of the staff are still sore from the challenge."

The charity is Tesco's chosen cause and the store has many more activities planned to raise even more funds for the charity.

BUDDING entrepreneurs in Cannock can help turn their dreams into a reality thanks to a new scheme.

Enterprise for Success is designed for people considering self-employment, starting a small business or for businesses less than three years old.

It offers support and advice on creating a successful and sustainable company and is funded by Blue Orchid, one of the UK's leading business start-up support specialists.

Heather Hayes, managing director, said: "At present, there is a real need to create more sustainable employment opportunities, so it's fantastic that we are going to be able to help so many people grow and transform their ideas into viable, prosperous businesses."

"From our experience we know the power new businesses have to transform peoples lives and unlock their true potential."

Motivation

"Some people have always harboured a dream of being their own boss, others find that circumstances conspire to give them the push they need."

"Whatever your situation or motivation, we can work at your side to get you up and running and then give you the advice and support you need to make your new venture a success."

The scheme will also be rolled out across East Stafford, Lichfield and Tamworth and is funded by the four district councils.

A team of qualified business advisors will give people one-to-one professional advice on business planning, finances, marketing, sales support and networking opportunities.

There will also be workshops and regular training sessions to help with all aspects of running a business.

For more information about the scheme visit www.blueorchid.co.uk or call 0161 341 0245.

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NEWS

Structure bridges the gap between cyclists and track



Aidan Burley MP and Paul Sumner, Project Sponsor for Network Rail open Moors Gorse bridge, Cannock Chase

A NEW £1.5million bridge has been opened in Cannock to prevent cyclists from having to cross railway lines.

The structure was built following a series of near misses by bikers and pedestrians using the Moors Gorse public bridleway crossing, according to Network Rail.

Opening the new bridge has also allowed the firm to permanently close the old level crossing, which previously forced cyclists and pedestrians to negotiate two sets of gates to cross the busy Cannock railway line where trains travel through at up to 50mph.

The crossing was being used by up to 3,000 cyclists each weekend.

Paul Sumner, project sponsor for Network Rail, said: "In 2010, we became aware of a change of use at Moors Gorse as new mountain bike trails opened up in the forest with up to 3,000 cyclists using the crossing on certain weekends.

Misuse

"This increase in also meant a big rise in the level of risk associated with the crossing, so we're delighted to open this new bridge and close the crossing for good."

Network Rail says the scheme was

further supported by an increase in misuse of the crossing and a number of near misses.

Since the summer of 2010 there were 10 officially reported 'near miss' incidents at Moors Gorse involving 37 people, says the firm.

The bridge was officially opened by Cannock Chase MP Aidan Burley, who said: "The old level crossing was no longer fit for purpose. I am pleased that Network Rail recognised this and now installed a new bridge."

Network Rail says the bridge has been painted and located to minimise visual impact and designed for easy use for cyclists, horse riders and walkers.

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Office of the
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Mid Staffordshire **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

Trust Special Administrator Announcement

Monitor has approved the TSAs' extension request and the revised dates for the TSA timetable are now confirmed as follows:

Wednesday 31 July 2013

Publication of the TSAs' draft recommendations

Tuesday 6 August 2013

Formal consultation period starts

Tuesday 1 October 2013

Formal consultation period ends

The proposed public consultation meetings previously announced will be cancelled and rescheduled during this revised consultation period. The TSAs apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Please visit the website (www.tsa-msft.org.uk) for further information and updates.

Contact details

- Online at www.tsa-msft.org.uk
- On Twitter @tsamsft
- By email at TSAPublic@midstaffs.nhs.uk
- By writing to the TSAs at Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, Stafford Hospital, Weston Road, Stafford, ST16 3SA
- By calling the TSA Information Line on 01785 887506

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Evening entertainment plus a Scottish themed evening



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RULES: Entrants must be aged 18 or over. Closing date for entries is Friday 26th July 2013. The winner will be notified by post. The first correct entry opened after closing date will receive the prize. There is no cash alternative to the prize. The prize will be issued in cheque form, made payable to the advertiser as chosen by the winner. Once issued, the cheque cannot be altered and must be cashed within 2 months of receipt. Employees (or their immediate relatives) of the Express & Star may NOT enter. The Editor's decision is final. The winner must be prepared to take part in any relevant publicity.



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NEWS

Embroidery group has exhibition all sewn up

AN EMBROIDERY group is putting on an exhibition of its work this weekend. The display by the Chads Moor Tapestry Group takes place at Chads Moor Methodist Church, Hednesford Road, on Saturday, from 10.30am to 4.30pm.

It will focus on some of the more recent work by group members and will highlight some of the many aspects of embroidery and textiles, including beading, canvas work, hardanger, crewelwork, quilting, stumpwork and ribbon embroidery.

There will also be an opportunity to learn more about the work of the group and of its more recent projects. Admission is free, refreshments will be served and hand-crafted gifts will be on sale. For more details, call 01902 736674.

Blind Olivia is honoured in sensory room name

A SPECIAL sensory room at Chase Leisure Centre will be named after a sporting hopeful who carried the Paralympic Torch through Cannock.

Blind horse rider Olivia Wilson won the hearts of residents after being chosen as the town's Paralympics Flame Ambassador for last year's games.



Horse rider Olivia Wilson

Children in sportsfest

MORE than 300 school children gathered at Rugeley Leisure Centre to take part in a series of sports events.

The Festival of Sport and Culture offered youngsters the chance to get involved in golf, tennis, football, cricket, trampolining, dodgeball, tug-of-war, swimming, triathlon, dance, netball and tag rugby.

Organised by leisure provider Wigan Leisure and Cultural Trust, the event was opened by the district's Paralympic Flame Ambassador Olivia Wilson.

Paul Smith, Sports Development manager at WLCT, said: "This was a great way of bringing young people together to try out different sports."

Culture and sport leader Councillor Chris Mitchell said: "It was great that so many took part."

"This event has helped provide a future legacy for our local Chase Community Games initiative."

Free drop-in sessions offer advice for carers

THE Carers Association Locality Link (CALL), a spin-off branch of the Carers Association Southern Staffordshire, meets at St Michael's Church Hall, Breton, next month.

Drop-in sessions are on the second Monday of the month from 10am to 1pm with the next on July 8.

There is no meeting in August. The following one will be held on September 9.

The sessions offer free confidential advice, and refreshments, for carers. Contact CASS on 01785 222365 for more information.

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Hednesford



The Hednesford Gateway scheme comprises of two sites representing two district phases:

Phase One off Rugeley Road and Phase Two on Victoria Street, providing the town with two stylish new developments and helping to stimulate activity along Market Street.

This location represents a natural place to accommodate the retail expansion of the centre and is designed to encourage local people to shop in Hednesford rather than travelling to neighbouring towns. The 3.7ha Phase Two scheme is situated on Victoria Street in the town centre, adjacent to Hednesford Park and the railway line.

The re-alignment of Victoria Street will provide a single development plot for Phase Two allowing for the creation of a visually attractive frontage running from Market Street to the scheme's 4,811 sq m food store. The new community centre has also been positioned to act as a focal point for the development when viewed from Market Street and Anglesey Street.

- 4,811 sq m Food Store
- New community centre
- Non-food retail terrace and kiosk
- Relocated building for the Reserve Forces and Cadet Association
- Heritage Trail to include enhanced landscaping and improved footpaths
- New bus station facilities
- Adequate car parking facilities for the whole proposal
- Elevated food store to allow for car parking underneath

This range of facilities will attract new retailers and encourage more people to shop in Hednesford, helping to create a safe and welcoming town centre environment.

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Children (Up to 7 yrs) 25p/item					

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Hednesford



Hednesford was an important coal mining community for over a century. This is commemorated in the town centre, where a Miner's Lamp has been erected, surrounded by a wall with individual bricks giving the names of former miners. The oldest sections of the town surround the hilltop areas of the existing town; however, the lower part of the town became the focal point as the community grew with the mining industry.

The urban area of Hednesford now spreads across a swathe of the northern fringe of Cannock, from Pye Green across to Heath Hayes, and is the southern gateway to Cannock Chase AONB.

Economically Hednesford has suffered since the 1980s as more people travel to the larger towns and cities nearby and due to the absence of redevelopment it retains a traditional street scene with many sole traders operating speciality shops. However, the area around Anglesey Square has been landscaped to provide a pleasant public space with a public clock as a central feature.

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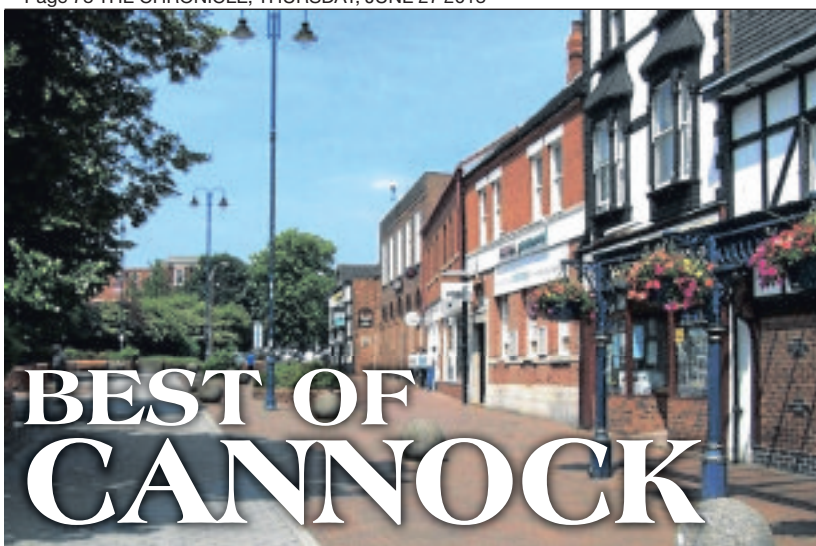
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NEWS

Club jumps for joy as it marks 10 years



From left, coaches Lorraine Perry, Jenni Williams and Elisha Clarke celebrate Burntwood Elite Gymnastics Club's 10th birthday with club members

BURNTWOOD Elite Gymnastics Club will celebrate its 10th anniversary next week with a birthday party. The club, which meets at Burntwood Leisure Centre and at Tamworth Olympic Gymnastics Club twice a week, has around 40 members aged five to 16 and was set up in 2003 by lead coach Jenni Williams.

The 30-year-old from Hednesford said: "The club was set up by myself and three other gymnast coaches to give young people the opportunity to get involved with a sport and take part in regional competitions.

"Our members compete in a number of different tournaments throughout the year and are trained on how to use the beam, bar and vault.

Fantastic

"I have been involved in gymnastics for many years. I never took part in competitions, but I always knew I wanted to coach young people and it gives me a real sense of achievement to see them doing well.

"I can't believe the club is now 10 years old. When it was first set up I never looked that far ahead. It is fantastic to see it doing so well and I am looking forward to the next 10 years."

A barbecue and disco will be held at Chase Terrace Scout Hut, Ironstone Road, on Saturday, July 6 at 5pm and both current and ex-members and coaches are invited.

For more information call 07411 989037.

Inspector to visit site of shed wrangle

A GOVERNMENT inspector will next week visit a village allotment where gardeners have been banned from having potting sheds.

The official trip to Plum Pudding Allotments, near Rugeley, is expected to finally settle the row between farmer Paul Boston, owner of the site, and district council officers who say the sheds need planning permission.

The plot holders are adamant that the sheds are essential for storing their tools. They are backing Mr Boston who says he is 'optimistic' about the outcome.

He and Lichfield District Council enforcement officer Christine Hibbs are due to meet the government planning inspector at the Armitage with Handsacre site on Tuesday, July 2.

Painted

Mr Boston said: "I'm looking forward to the end of this saga. We will know one way or another very soon."

"I've been down and cut the hedge and the bank, and all but five of the sheds have been painted green, so everything is looking good."

"I've put up rails and planted fir trees to block the view of the allotments from neighbours."

"We've only had one letter of objection from a resident compared to 400 signatures on a petition and 30 letters in support."

Growers were told 20

Samantha's a high roller

A CHASE youngster came back with a silver medal from the The British Artistic Roller-skating Championship. Samantha Meredith, who trains at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre three times a week, represented the Tots (under-8s) category at the tournament in Peterborough and finished in second place. Samantha was selected for the British Development Squad and will attend training dates set by the British Roller-skating Association.

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Dilshad is committed to maintaining its high standards and has received many accolades including winner of Best South Asian Restaurant 2012 in the West Midlands Tiffin Cup. It also achieved fifth place in the National Tiffin Cup 2012 competition awarded by the House of Commons.

"We employ some of the best chefs in our kitchen, creating dishes unrivalled in quality and taste to trigger those taste buds", says Tony Uddin, owner of the Dilshad.

The Dilshad has recently undergone major refurbishment to expand the restaurant by

more than twice the size, this now allows them to cater for up to 100 people in one of the best contemporary restaurants in the area!

And if it's spice you like, Dilshad chefs have concocted a tantalising dish. "I have many customers who come here that enjoy a really hot curry", says Tony.

"I thought I would try to make one of the hottest in the UK"

"The Dilshad Inferno is so hot that we ask customers to sign a disclaimer before they eat it.

It will literally feel like an inferno raging inside. The taste will be absolutely delicious, but each mouthful will hurt like crazy.

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We offer a sophisticated dining experience suited to the refined palate, especially for those that are seeking to explore beyond the ordinary.

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During our time in Cannock, the relationship with the community has led to it being a favourite with customers from the town and surrounding areas, and those who wish to travel that bit further to experience specialist Indian dining.

A relaxed atmosphere has been created in the restaurant that combines with a contemporary air. Coupling the food with outstanding service, friendly atmosphere and modern decor, staff aim to provide an experience that you will enjoy and want to repeat.



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Dr Palmer, born in 1824 and educated at the local grammar school, owed money to Parsons Cook, a bookmaker, and after a 12-day trial was found guilty of his murder. He was publicly executed in Stafford. The tale was featured in a TV documentary starring Keith Allen as Palmer.

Another notorious Rugeley tale is that of Christina Collins, who was killed by boatmen as she travelled to London to be with her husband. Her body was carried up what are now known as the Bloody Steps by the Trent & Mersey Canal in June 1839. Christina's grave can also be seen today in the churchyard at St Augustine's. Three of the four bargemen were charged with her murder. The story of her murder was the inspiration for an Inspector Morse mystery entitled The Wench Is Dead.

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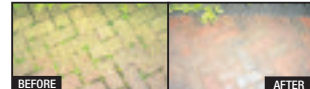
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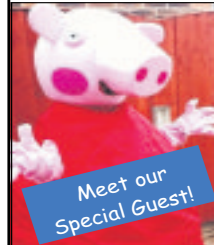
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NEWS

Bishop's pride at last parade of old Staffords colours

THE Bishop of Lichfield spoke of civilian pride in the achievements 'despite incredible odds' of The Mercian Regiment as soldiers paraded their old colours for the last time.

The Right Reverend Jonathan Gledhill thanked the soldiers for their bravery, hard work and sacrifice during a service at Lichfield Cathedral. He also said it had been good to hear their contribution highlighted in Parliament.

New colours were presented to the regiment by the Prince of Wales, the regiment's colonel-in-chief, at a ceremony in Worcester earlier this month.

The old colours were lain for the final time on Monday (June 24).

"We civilians are very proud that in spite of incredible odds you made a difference," the Bishop said.

The Very Rev Adrian Dorber, the Dean of Lichfield, said: "No more fitting place than this could be found in which to deposit these emblems of duty and service."

Bible

The congregation stood as the great west doors at the front of the cathedral were opened for a guard of honour to carry the colours inside.

At the altar they were lowered and handed to the Bishop. Hymns, prayers and bible readings made up the 40-minute tribute.

It was a day of sadness for David Lovell, aged 55, who followed his father John into the Staffords and whose 32-year son, also David, is currently a colour sergeant in the Mercians.

The veteran, of Highfields, Stafford, who served between 1975-1992, said: "It's a sad day, seeing 308 years of regimental history getting shoved into the archives."



Commanding officers at the "Laying Up of the Colours" of the 3rd Battalion The Mercian Regiment (Staffords) at Lichfield Cathedral

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Under the watchful eye of dentist Steven Burchell DipCDT RCS(Eng), founder of the Dudley-based Denture Clinic, regular surgeries held at his Tettenhall Road practice are helping patients turn back the hands of time.

The practice is part of a growing portfolio of locations with surgeries also at North Street, Dudley; Fresh Dental in St Mary's Road, Bearwood; and most recently, Comberton Dental Surgery in Comberton Road, Kidderminster.

A champion for those who wear dentures, Steven has spent more than ten years campaigning to "break the taboo over false teeth."

He is evangelical about what new generation denture prescriptions can achieve.

"Dentures have traditionally never been associated with cosmetic makeovers, but our high-quality prosthetics have quite literally taken years off some of our patients," he said.

"People have come to us with



ill-fitting dentures, sunken cheeks and pinched lips and we have been privileged to transform their looks. Can dentures be glamorous? Emphatically, yes.

"We remain on the cusp of development, so that those who entrust their smile to us can be sure they will be advised on the best options."

Steven's work has attracted people from all walks of life, including a former SAS mountain warfare specialist, an airline pilot, a multi-millionaire with his own jet, health professionals and "ordinary salt-of-the-earth people from the Black Country."

The clinic's prosthetics, hand-crafted at laboratories at the Dudley and Wolverhampton practices, have also

found satisfied patients from as far away as Spain and Portugal. And the secret of his success? A seamless service to clients, where clinical assessment and the crafting of prescriptions are all in-house.

"It's a simple formula," said Steven, "but it has allowed me to be fastidious about the quality of teeth we supply."

"We will never compromise on best clinical outcomes and that same ethos is core to all of our clinics. We are always reimagining what dentures can achieve."

He admitted that denture wearers are one of the most challenging groups to treat successfully, presenting some "monumental" challenges.

"Many patients have had a bad deal for years, but we are in the vanguard of changing outcomes and hopefully changing some lives for the better too," said Steven.

Steven draws on more than 30 years' experience in all disciplines of dental technology to produce his hallmark "functional, natural-looking teeth."

Having completed his training as a dental technician and started his own laboratory, Steven enrolled on a three-and-a-half year CDT training course with the George Brown College in Toronto, Canada, to enable him to work in his dental discipline independently of a dentist.

Graduating with honours, Steven undertook a further year's study under the auspices of The Royal College of Surgeons.

Options

Traditional

THE Denture Clinic is renowned for its natural look. Denturist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng), says: "Quality, traditional dentures can be hugely effective."

Suction

DENTURES which use suction to stay in place are helping to resolve common stability problems. The Ultra Suction teeth are held in place by tiny valve-operated devices fitted into the prosthetic.

Implant retained

DENTURES retained by implants offer a guaranteed solution to stability issues. Implant procedures are available at the Wolverhampton premises through Total Implant Solutions.



Steven Burchell
Dip CDT RCS (Eng)
(GDC108353)
with Denture Clinic
manager Peter Brookings
(GDC124429)



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What's On!

REVIEW

Giselle, Birmingham Royal Ballet

THE Birmingham Royal Ballet must surely be the best in the world and their current interpretation of the timeless classic, *Giselle*, presented at the Birmingham Hippodrome is no exception.

The audience were treated to a visual delight of stunning scenery, breathtaking technique and exquisite choreography, perfectly relaying the story of the beautiful *Giselle*, who is driven to take her own life for the sake of love.

The Royal Ballet Sinfonia, under the instruction of Musical Director Koen Kessels radiates spectacularly throughout the theatre, transporting you straight into this enchanting tale and then on to a magical journey through dance.

The coupling of Jenna Roberts in the title role and Iain MacKay as Count Albrecht is very special indeed.

One of the highlights is a long series of sharp entrechats, executed with ease by Mr MacKay. The couple's performance provoked impromptu bursts of applause throughout Act Two, as the audience's appreciation of their skills grew and grew.

ALISON NORTON

Hound Dogs play

ROCK n roll band Jimmy and the Hound Dogs perform at Woodys bar in Uxbridge Street, Hednesford, on Friday, July 12 with support from 60s garage band Foxboro Hot Tubs. The show starts around 9pm and admission is free.

Second city swings to the many varied sounds of jazz

BIRMINGHAM Jazz and Blues Festival is back to bring the many and varied sounds of jazz to the second city with some 150 international acts performing at more than 80 venues – and most of the gigs will be free

Young blues star in date at the Robin

AWARD-WINNING blues singer and guitarist Chantel McGregor is in concert at Bilston's Robin 2 venue on Wednesday, July 3.

Chantel was voted Young Musician of the Year in the British Blues Awards 2011, Female Vocalist of the Year the following year and has been nominated for Female Vocalist of the Year and Guitarist of the Year in 2013.

She has jammed on stage with guitar legend Joe Bonamassa on two of his tours and won acclaim in her own right as a formidable guitar player, talented singer-songwriter and exciting live performer.

Tickets cost £11 in advance or £13 on the door. Call 01902 401211

With 200 gigs taking place between Friday, July 5, and Sunday, July 14, there is plenty of music to appreciate. Some of the artists to watch out for include acclaimed violinist Tim Kluhuis from Holland, young Lithuanian band Sheep Got Waxed, Canadian singer Melissa Lauren, Chicago-born but Brum-based singer Bobby Woods, Spain's Potato Head Jazz Band and Irish singer-songwriter Grainne Duffy.

Patron

Old favourite include the Black Country's jump jive veterans King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys, Steve Gibbons Band, Old Hill rock and roller Ricky Cool, Val Wiseman, trombonist Roy Williams and festival patron Digby Fairweather with his quartet.

The British Jazz Awards return to their home city at St Paul's Church in the Jewellery Quarter on July 10.

See www.birmingham-jazzfestival.com for details.



He just can't wait to be king – Nicolas Nkuna playing Simba in *The Lion King*

Lion King roars in for summer

DISNEY'S *The Lion King* is one of the biggest productions to be staged at the Birmingham Hippodrome.

Due to its spectacular costumes, puppets and scenery, it takes a convoy of 23 45ft-long trailers to transport *The Lion King* from one city to the next on its UK tour.

The *Lion King*, adapted for the stage from the hit animated movie, comes to the Hippodrome on June 29 and runs for almost three months, to September 28.

The award-winning musical by Elton John and Tim Rice employs 150 people and 40 are locally-based.

There are 50 performers from 17 countries in all, supported by a backstage team of over 100.

More than 25 different types of animal are represented in the show which opens with hit song *Circle of Life*.

REVIEW

Josh Groban – Birmingham Symphony Hall
THERE is no denying Josh's voice, with its warmth, power and confidence is incredible. But please Josh – less is more.

I didn't want his glorious tones swamped with a 20-piece band and I certainly didn't want quite so many drums.

The highlight for me wasn't one of his catchy classics but the simple stripped-down *Vincent*, sung with the minimum of accompaniment and delivered beautifully.

Perhaps Josh is giving what many of his fans crave, a rather overblown sound that incites the waving of light sticks.

But Josh certainly gave a good show, joking with the crowd, teasing late-comers and telling stories.

Entertaining yes, but I would have been even happier if he had been singing in a village hall.

The set was sumptuous and eye-catching, and with its sheer richness showed just how successful this 32-year-old musician has become.

Thankfully he opted for a simple T-shirt with jacket and jeans combo. Let's hope he doesn't get lured by rhinestones any time soon.

SARAH COWEN-STRONG

Bad Rats on stage

LOCAL Irish influenced punk band the Bad Rats are playing at the Dukebox in Telford this weekend. They will take the stage on Saturday, June 29, followed by a date at Scruffys Murphys in Birmingham on Saturday July 13.



LEGACY RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION NOW ON

It is with great pleasure that Riverside Gallery invite you to 'Legacy' - a retrospective exhibition of extraordinary work by the late, great Govinder Nazran.

Once in a lifetime an artist emerges who is so extraordinary that the landscape of contemporary art is altered forever. The inimitable Govinder Nazran was one such artist.

Join us in the gallery to see this extraordinary collection



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What's On!

Listings supplied by Press Association

SATURDAY'S TV 29.06.13

CHOICE



John Inverdale

Today at Wimbledon
BBC2, 8pm

John Inverdale presents action and reaction from the sixth day's play at the All England Club, focusing on the scheduled conclusion of the men's and ladies' third-round singles. The top seeds had their own way on day six last year, with the likes of Juan Martin del Potro, Serena Williams, Andy Murray and Petra Kvitová all progressing to the fourth round. Despite a relatively wet beginning to the tournament, the schedule was back on track by this point in 2012, with all of the third-round singles matches completed.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **12.15** Live Formula 1: British Grand Prix – Qualifying. **2.20** Wimbledon 2013. **6.10** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **6.30** **Celebrity Mastermind**. With Sarah Storey, Nihal Arthanayake, Dan Walker and Martin Lewis. Last in the series. (R) **7.00** **Pointless Celebrities**. One-time soap stars take part, including former EastEnders actors Dean Gaffney and John Altman, and Coronation Street's Ken Morley and Steven Arnold. (R) **7.50** **The National Lottery: In It to Win It**. Dale Winton hosts the quiz in which five contestants pit their wits to scoop a big cash prize. Includes the National Lottery draws, presented by John Partridge. **8.40** **Casualty**. Tom and Sam clash over the best course of action for a mother who can no longer cope with looking after her autistic son, and Ash's tearaway daughter Ella causes more trouble. **9.30** BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update. **9.50** **Win It: Die Hard with a Vengeance**. (1995) New York cop John McClane pursues a terrorist threatening to set off a series of bombs around the city. Action thriller sequel, with Bruce Willis, Samuel L. Jackson and Jeremy Irons. **11.50** **Film: Tombstone**. (1993) Western, with Kurt Russell. **1.50** Weatherview. **1.55** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This is BBC Two. **6.40** Formula 1: British Grand Prix – Practice One. **8.15** Formula 1: British Grand Prix – Practice Two. **9.55** Live Formula 1: British Grand Prix – Practice Three. **11.05** Wimbledon 2013. **4.00** Glastonbury 2013. **6.00** **Wimbledon 2013**. Further live coverage of the sixth day's play at the All England Club, where, weather permitting, the line-ups for the men's and ladies' fourth-round singles are set to be decided. **8.00** **Today at Wimbledon**. John Inverdale presents action and reaction from the sixth day's play at the All England Club, focusing on the scheduled conclusion of the men's and ladies' third-round singles. **9.00** **QI**. Guests Robert Webb, Phil Jupitus, Ronni Ancona and regular panellist Alan Davies join host Stephen Fry, who asks questions about hypnosis, hallucinations and hysteria. (R) **9.30** **Mock the Week**. Gary Delaney, Holly Walsh and Josh Widdicombe join regulars Chris Addison, Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons on the topical comedy quiz. (R) **10.00** **What a Load of Buzzcocks**. Music news stories and highlights of the comedy quiz from 2005. (R) **10.30** **Glastonbury 2013**. Lauren Laverne, Mark Radcliffe and Jo Whitley present coverage of the festival, headlined tonight by the Rolling Stones. Plus, highlights of Elvis Costello and Primal Scream. **2.00** This is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.15** Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.25** Poppy Cat. **6.40** Poppy Cat. **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Bookaboo. **7.20** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.35** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.00** Gravity Falls. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Dinner Date. (R) **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **10.15** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.15** ITV News; Weather. **11.20** Saturday Farm. **12.20** River Monsters. (R) **1.20** **Film: Holiday on the Buses**. (1973) **3.00** All Star Mr & Mrs. (R) **4.00** Midsomer Murders. (R) **6.05** **Regional Programme**; Weather. **6.15** **ITV News**; Weather. **6.30** **You've Been Framed!** Comical clips, including a dog-versus-crocodile showdown. (R) **7.00** **You've Been Framed!** Humorous footage, including a skateboarding Santa Claus. **7.30** **Your Face Sounds Familiar**. New series. Alesha Dixon and Paddy McGuinness host a live entertainment show in which six celebrities impersonate randomly selected music icons in a bid to win money for charity. **8.45** **All Star Family Fortunes**. New series. Casualty's Patrick Robinson and Big Brother's Bit on the Side co-host Rylan Clark team up with their families to win money for charity. **9.45** **The Americans**. The Jennings try to defeat a new FBI surveillance system. **10.30** **ITV News**; Weather. **10.45** **Film: Space Cowboys**. (2000) Adventure, starring Clint Eastwood. **1.05** Jackpot247. **3.00** In Plain Sight. (R) **3.45** **ITV Nightscreen**.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** VW Racing Cup. **7.30** The Grid. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Heston's Fantastical Food. (R) **1.35** Channel 4 Racing. **4.00** IPC Athletics Grand Prix Final. **6.30** **Channel 4 News**. **7.00** **Come Dine with Me**. A week of dinner parties in Barnsley, South Yorkshire, featuring an American-themed evening, a Wild West-style bash and unusual delicacies including ostrich egg and pig's ears. (R) **8.00** **Grand Designs**. Kevin McCool follows the progress of south London couple Mary Martin and Carl Turner, who want to build a home that resembles a giant stack of glass cubes. (R) **9.00** **The Million Pound Drop Live**. Davina McCall presents the quiz show in which contestants are challenged to place large quantities of cash over trapdoors as they face a series of questions. **10.30** **Film: Patriot Games**. (1992) Former CIA agent Jack Ryan foils an assassination attempt by an IRA splinter group, killing one of the terrorists in the process. Thriller, starring Harrison Ford, Sean Bean, Samuel L. Jackson, Richard Harris and James Earl Jones. **12.50** Paddy's TV Guide. (R) **1.35** Just Around the Corner. (R) **2.05** The Million Pound Drop Live. (R) **3.30** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.45** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. (R) **10.35** ThunderCats. (R) **11.00** Highland Emergency. (R) **11.30** Big Brother: Live Eviction. (R) **12.55** CSI: NY. (R) **1.40** CSI: NY. (R) **2.30** **Film: Gold**. (1974) **4.50** **Film: Zulu Dawn**. (1979) **7.00** **5 News Weekend**. **7.10** **The CSI Movie: Crisis**. A government weapons truck is hijacked as part of a plan to allow a criminal to escape from jail. Feature-length episode of the crime drama, starring David Caruso. **8.45** **Big Brother**. Highlights of another 24 hours in the Big Brother house, including coverage of the second eviction as seen from the point of view of the contestants. **10.00** **Big Brother's Bit on the Psych**. AJ Odudu is joined by a panel of psychologists and celebrity fans to analyse the housemates' behaviour. **11.00** **The Walking Dead**. New series. A prison provides an opportunity for the survivors to establish a new base camp, but they find it is not uninhabited. Post-apocalyptic drama, with Andrew Lincoln. **11.55** **Inside Hollywood**. Magazine show, with location reports, showbusiness news and views from behind the scenes in Tinseltown. Presented by Mark Morris. **12.00** SuperCasino. **4.00** Michael's Wild Challenge. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three **7.00** Laura Mvula & Noah and the Whale @ Glastonbury **8.00** Ben Howard & Maverick Sabre @ Glastonbury **9.00** Two Door Cinema Club & Example @ Glastonbury **10.30** Chase & Status Live @ Glastonbury **BBC Four** **7.00** Heritage! The Battle for Britain's Past **8.00** Oceans **9.00** Wallander: The Fifth Woman **10.55** Glastonbury: Public Enemy **ITV2** **4.30** **Film: Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones** (2002) **7.15** **Film: The Scorpion King** (2002) **9.00** **Film: Pitch Black** (2000) **11.15** **Film: Lemon 8** (2006) **ITV3** **3.10** **Film: Murder, She Wrote: The Last Free Man** (2001) **5.00** **Film: The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery** (1966) **7.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **9.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **11.00** Wire in the Blood **ITV4** **10.55** Tour de France 2013 Live **4.30** British Touring Car Championship **6.00** The Sweeney **7.00** Tour de France 2013 Highlights **8.00** The Motorbike Show **9.00** Hell on Wheels **10.00** **Film: Cliffhanger** (1993) **E4** **3.00** 90210 **4.00** Rules of Engagement **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** The Mindy Project **7.30** Happy Endings **8.00** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** 2 Broke Girls **9.00** **Film: Coming to America** (1988) **11.20** The Inbetweeners **Film4** **3.30** The Remains of the Day (1993) **6.10** The Hunt for Red October (1990) **9.00** Limitless (2011) Sci-fi thriller, with Bradley Cooper. **11.05** Scanners (1981)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 30.06.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE



Michael Buble

Michael Buble's Day Off

ITV, 9pm
Suited and booted and preened to perfection with a voice that booms from here to the other side of Christmas, Michael Buble never fails to put on a show-stopping performance. But just for once, this isn't about his voice - it's all about his private life. Yes, Buble is allowing access into his life as he takes a day off in his hometown of Vancouver to spend time with his friends and family. Michael pays his 86-year-old grandpa a visit, and reminisces with his dad about the days and nights they used to spend out at sea, before preparing to attend his 20th high school reunion.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.10** Live Formula 1: British Grand Prix. Suzi Perry presents coverage of the eighth round of the season at Silverstone (Start-time 1.00pm), where Mark Webber took the honours last year. **3.30** A Question of Sport: A-Z. (R) **4.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** Earthlight. A bird's-eye view of Europe. (R) **6.35** BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team head to Chatsworth House in Derbyshire, where objects awaiting valuation include a tile commemorating one of the biggest bare-knuckle fights in history. (R)

8.00 Countryfile. John Craven visits the Lake District, where he makes a journey by steam train and rides a steamer on Lake Windermere. Plus, archive stories featuring cars, boats and bikes. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

9.00 The White Queen. Margaret Beaufort joins Warwick's rebellion against Edward, but when the uprising fails, the traitors run for their lives - so Elizabeth and Jacquetta turn to witchcraft again.

10.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **10.25 Match of the Day Live.** The Confederations Cup final (Kick-off 11.00pm). Gary Lineker presents all the action from the showpiece match at the Maracana in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Subsequent programmes are subject to change.

1.30 Weatherview. **1.35** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.40 Film:** Mr Lucky. (1943) Romantic comedy drama, starring Cary Grant and Laraine Day. **9.15** The A to Z of TV Gardening. **9.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.30** MotoGP: Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.05** EastEnders. (R) **2.00** Live Athletics. The British Grand Prix. **5.00** Glastonbury 2013.

7.00 Peter James Meets. The Dragons' Den star chats to the father and son who oversee high-street retail chain Timpson, and meets the woman behind St Tropez self-tanning products. Last in the series.

8.00 Top Gear. New series. Jeremy Clarkson and James May take part in a race between a car and a yacht in New Zealand and Richard Hammond tries out three of the latest hot hatches.

9.00 Rise of the Continents. Iain Stewart examines the development of Eurasia, which consists of Europe and Asia and was formed by tectonic-plate collisions over millions of years. Last in the series.

10.00 Glastonbury 2013. Jo Whitley, Mark Radcliffe and Lauren Laverne present coverage of the last day of the festival, with Mumford & Sons scheduled to headline the Pyramid stage.

2.00 Sign Zone: Countryfile. The story of the smugglers who used to operate on Romney Marsh in Kent, and whether bringing super-fast broadband to the northern English countryside is worth the expense. (R) **3.00** Holby City. Ollie's erratic behaviour endangers a patient's life. (R) **4.00** This Is BBC Two. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.15** Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.25** Poppy Cat. **6.40** Poppy Cat. **6.50** Animals. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Bookaboo. **7.20** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.35** Kick Buttowski - Suburban Daredevil. **7.50** Kick Buttowski - Suburban Daredevil. **8.00** Sonny with a Chance. **8.25** ITV News.

8.30 Country House Sunday. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** ITV News: Weather. **11.25** Film: Sparkling Cyanide. (1983) **1.20** Love Your Garden. (R) **2.20** A Touch of Frost. (R) **4.20** You've Been Framed! (R) **4.50** Film: Beethoven's 5th. (2003)

6.30 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News: Weather. **7.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. With Coolio, Jenny Eclair and Matthew Wolfenden.

8.00 The Cube: Celebrity Special. Olympic gymnast Louis Smith and L'Oréal star Mark Wright take on the challenge in a bid to raise money for charity. Phillip Schofield hosts.

9.00 Michael Buble's Day Off. The Canadian crooner gives a personal insight into his life as he takes a day off in his hometown of Vancouver to spend time with his family and friends.

10.00 ITV News: Weather. **10.15** The Talent Show Story. The changing role of the talent-show host. (R)

11.15 Murder, She Wrote. Part two of two. Doctor reveals Seth was poisoned. (R)

12.15 The Store. **2.15** Monk. (R) **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV News. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** Ironman 2013. **7.05** Windsor Triathlon. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.50** The Simpsons. (R) **1.20** The Simpsons. (R) **1.50** Celebrity Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.55** Hollywood Me. (R) **3.55** Deal or No Deal. **4.55** Film: Fantastic Mr Fox. (2009)

6.30 Channel 4 News. **7.00** Terror in the Skies.

Aeronautical engineer Brendan Walker looks at what happens when planes fly into hazards such as lightning, invisible wind shear, birds and volcanic ash. Last in the series.

8.00 The Secret of Lincoln Jail: A Time Team Special. As an archaeological dig at Lincoln Castle reveals new secrets about the horrors of its early prisons, Tony Robinson traces the story of punishment over the course of a millennium.

9.00 The Returned. As Lena's mysterious scar grows, she is convinced Camille is behind it, while Julie does not put up a fight when the police take Victor away. French supernatural thriller.

10.05 Film: Fracture. (2007) A man shoots his wife, confesses to the crime, and represents himself in court, where he demolishes the prosecution's case. Thriller, starring Anthony Hopkins and Ryan Reynolds.

12.15 The Simpsons. (R) **1.05** Film: Chitrangada: The Crowning Wish. (2012) **3.35** Location, Location. (R) **4.30** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Film: The Flowerpot Men. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. **6.35** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.20** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.30** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.45** Jelly Jamm. (R) **10.00** The Mr Men Show. (R) **10.15** Power Rangers Samurai. (R) **10.50** ThunderCats. (R) **11.15** Monkey Life. (R) **11.45** Big Brother. (R) **12.55** BB BOTS: Ryan's Supersized Celebrity Sunday. **2.00** Film: National Security. (2003) **3.35** Film: Gremlins 2: The New Batch. (1990) **5.40** Film: Lost in Space. (1998)

7.55 5 News Weekend. **8.00** Once Upon a Time. A giant goes on the rampage in Storybrooke.

9.00 Big Brother. Daily round-up of highlights.

10.00 Film: The Eye. (2008) Premiere. Horror, starring Jessica Alba.

11.55 Bomb Patrol. Chase Holzhauer and Jeremy Stein are called on to dispose of a suicide vest.

12.55 SuperCasino. **4.00** Michael's Wild Challenge. (R) **4.20** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Formula 1: British Grand Prix Highlights. **8.00** Vampire Weekend & Jessie Ware @ Glastonbury. **9.00** Editors & Lianne La Havas @ Glastonbury. **10.00** The xx Live @ Glastonbury. **11.30** Russell Howard's Good News Extra

BBC Four
7.00 Britain's Natural World. **7.10** The Rabbits of Skomer. **7.20** Film: She Wore a Yellow Ribbon (1949) **9.00** Rich Hall's You Can Go to Hell. I'm Going to Texas. **10.30** Glastonbury: Bobby Womack

ITV2
3.15 Film: Catwoman (2004) **5.15** Film: Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith (2005) **8.00** Film: Evan Almighty (2007) **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex. **10.50** Big Rich Texas. **11.50** Hell's Kitchen

ITV3
3.45 Inspector Morse. **5.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot. **7.55** Lewis. The inspector investigates a student's murder. **10.00** A Touch of Frost

ITV4
1.00 Tour de France 2013 Live. **4.30** Dakar Rally: Frontline to Finish Line. **6.30** Police, Camera, Action! **7.00** Tour de France 2013 Highlights. **8.00** 20 Years of Champions League

10.00 Film: Species: The Awakening (2007)

E4
4.00 90210. **5.00** The Mindy Project. **5.30** New Girl. **6.00** The Big Bang Theory. **7.30** How I Met Your Mother. **8.30** Film: Hot Shots! Part Deux (1993) **10.15** The Inbetweeners. **11.20** Don't Trust the B... in Apartment 23. **11.50** Alan Carr: Chatty Man

Film4
3.05 Black Knight (2001) **4.55** The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) **6.50** Grease (1978) **8.00** Unknown (2011) **11.15** The Spirit of '45 (2013)

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Film Choices

MONDAY

Picking Up and Dropping Off, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Two single parents – one a lonely weatherman and the other an antiques dealer – have a chance encounter during a hectic trip to the airport to drop off their children. The pair go their separate ways, but although they are unable to stop thinking about each other, they lack the courage to act on their feelings. Romantic comedy, starring Scott Wolf, Amanda Detmer and Rachelle Lefevre. (2003)

TUESDAY

Cold Mountain, BBC2, 11.20pm
A soldier serving in the American Civil War deserts his post and makes a long journey home to the woman he loves. She faces challenges of her own, as she struggles to run her dead father's farm and stop the cruel leader of the local home guard stealing her land. Anthony Minghella's period drama, starring Nicole Kidman, Jude Law, Renee Zellweger, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Natalie Portman and Donald Sutherland. (2003)

WEDNESDAY

Holy Man, Channel 4, 1.45am
The cynical executive in charge of a downmarket TV shopping channel hires a mystic guru as a presenter to draw in more viewers. The ratings soar as the unlikely host's on-air spiritual advice proves a runaway hit with the public, and also makes his shallow boss reassess his values. Satirical comedy, starring Eddie Murphy, Jeff Goldblum, Kelly Preston and Jon Cryer. (1998)



Notting Hill, Friday, ITV, 10.35pm

THURSDAY

Murder 101: If Wishes Were Horses, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Retired criminologist Dr Jonathan Maxwell teams up with private detective Mike Bryant to investigate the theft of a champion racehorse. However, the case takes a more sinister turn when a member of the family that owns the animal dies in suspicious circumstances. Mystery, starring Ray Abruzzo and Brad Beyer. (2007)

FRIDAY

Notting Hill, ITV, 10.35pm
A recently divorced bookshop owner finds love with a glamorous Hollywood film star, but ends up the focus of unwanted media interest – which makes maintaining a relationship a tricky proposition. Romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant, Julia Roberts. (1999)

Old School

BBC1, 11.25pm
An embittered lawyer decides to relive the wild, crazy days of his youth after his girlfriend is unfaithful, and enlists the help of two equally disillusioned friends in setting up a fraternity house next to his former college campus. Comedy, with Luke Wilson and Will Ferrell. (2003)

Pick of the Week

Rick takes a culinary journey around India

The part-travelogue, part-cookery show format is a recipe which has been emulated many times, ever since Keith Floyd first wobbled his way through various exotic locations in search of interesting foods (and drinks).

It's quite a simple one to follow, too – simply take one recognisable chef, immerse in a sunny location, simmer for six weeks and serve with a brand new hardback cookbook. Et voilà!

So yes, it's true that this latest adventure embarked upon by Rick Stein is hardly original – Stein himself has had similar series already in locales such as the Far East and Spain already – however the Oxfordshire foodie is always worth a watch.

His avuncular style and enthusiastic demeanour make him the perfect traveller, as he gets to the roots of an area, meeting locals and getting to know their culinary secrets, as well as exploring how food plays a pivotal role in their culture.

This week, the seafood chef approaches the halfway point of his journey, as he arrives in the southern town of Madurai in Tamil Nadu. Located on the banks of the River Vaigai, Madurai has a rich history.

It's been a major settlement for over 2,000 years, making it one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world – so as one might reasonably expect its people have developed an impressive array of local delicacies. Indeed, while there, Rick learns how to cook food fit for a deity at a temple, as well as sampling the speciality lentil-based dish of sambar.

It's not long before our genial tour guide is back on the road again, though, and en route to the state of Kerala, by way of a road trip across the Western Ghats. Kerala, on the Malabar coast in the south-west of the country, has long been a bustling centre for the spice trade, allowing its dishes to develop rich and complex flavours.

Here, Rick picks up some tips on making a traditional pork curry with a

distinctly Kerala flavour, before turning his attention to preparing a regional dessert, payasam, which is a sweetened rice putting containing fruit, nuts, and plenty of spices.

For anyone who thought the cuisine of India was simply curry, curry and more curry, this will prove to be an eye-opening series – it seems that in reality, dishes are as diverse and plentiful as they are delicious, and it's that variety which is as richly spicy as any.

Mind you, that's not to say Rick doesn't enjoy a good curry. He explained at the start of the series, "There's something about a curry that's all-pervading; just the thought of it ignites a longing deep inside us. It's the only food I can think of where the sense of smell works so wonderfully well with memory and imagination... No other food I know gives the taste buds such a roller-coaster ride."

It's that blend of poeticism and enthusiasm that makes Rick the perfect choice to front this spectacular series.



Rick Stein's India, Monday, BBC2, 9pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY

The Gadget Show
Channel 5, 8pm

Gamers take note! Tonight, the team is at the world's biggest gamers' expo to sample the PS4 and Xbox One in the company of gaming superstars KSI and Ali-A. Now part of a huge industry, consoles are becoming more multi-media and their games more realistic, so it's tantalising to imagine what these new releases are capable of. However, it's not just the PS4 and Xbox One that get sampled tonight. Rachel Riley and Jason Bradbury put the latest home security technology through its paces, Polyanna Woodward tests a jet-powered bodyboard, while Jon Bentley looks at the alternatives when he asks whether we still need Sky TV.

Undercover Boss
Channel 4, 9pm

Here's a lesson to live your life by: always welcome new colleagues with open arms, at least until you're completely sure that they're not an Undercover Boss. This ever-entertaining series is back for a fifth series tonight, beginning as Phil Couchman, CEO of DHL Express UK & Ireland, joins staff on the front line. In the three years since he became boss, Phil has seen the company's turnover reach a massive £800million – however, rapid expansion brings its own problems, and the high-flying exec is eager to find out what can be done, even if it means getting his own hands dirty in the process.

TUESDAY

Gok Live: Stripping for Summer
Channel 4, 8pm

"Thank Gok he's back!"... is how we imagine the cries of women across the nation will sound when they catch this new series. Gok Wan's on hand to prepare women with the confidence they need to dare to bare for the summer holidays, but this time he's got the added pressure of the show being live. In the first instalment, he surprises two women with a new look for the holidays, while his huge outside catwalk show is filled with tips on how to look good in the sun, no matter your size or body shape. First up, he's focusing on the dreaded bikini. Meanwhile, Katie Piper is on hand to offer a step-by-step guide to essential holiday beauty maintenance.

WEDNESDAY
Dates

Channel 4, 10pm
As the series comes to an end, we check in with Mia and David, who are now in a fully fledged relationship – but it seems like there are just as many problems that come hand-in-hand with relationships as they do the single life. As Mia prepares to meet her new boyfriend's children, events take an awkward turn and she is forced to finally confront the gap in her life that she's trying to fill. Bryan Elsley, creator of the drama, has

played a blinder with this series; it's touched the nation and appealed to so many people in different ways. Hats off to all involved in a stunning series...

THURSDAY
Happy Families
ITV, 9pm

As the last episode in this fascinating documentary series airs, the four families at the heart of it should be in a celebratory mood – at the very least, they should be patting themselves on the backs for being brave enough to let the nation get a glimpse of their domestic arrangements.

However, one clan in particular should feel like throwing a party, as Mel and Kris are renewing their vows, although juggling five kids with five part-time jobs doesn't leave much time for wedding planning. When they're not trying to make it down the aisle, Mel and Kris find time to reflect on what it takes to make a marriage work, a topic that's also on the minds of the other families.

FRIDAY
Sherlock
BBC1, 8.30pm
Don't get your hopes up too



Gok Live: Stripping ... Tuesday, Channel 4, 8pm

much – the BBC aren't finally putting us out of our misery and bringing us the third series of Sherlock, complete with an explanation of what exactly happened in the last episode of season two. But fortunately, we can enjoy the second series again, thanks to these repeats which begin with the detective duo investigating a case of blackmail that threatens to go right to the very heart of the British establishment. That's more or less just another day at the office for Holmes and Watson. But that's before their investigations bring Sherlock into contact with someone every bit as cold, ruthless and brilliant as he is – Irene Adler (Lara Pulver).

Britain's Secret Homes
ITV, 9pm

If the endless repeats of Grand Designs, Location, Location, Location, and A Place in the Sun haven't quite satisfied your appetite for shows about houses, then this countdown show should. For the last in the current series, Michael Buerk and Bettany Hughes will be wrapping things up with the aid of some rather famous folks, and the odd person who is almost famous. We'll let you decide which one is which as actor David Jason, actress and impressionist Ronni Ancona, Father Brown star Mark Williams and TV presenter Mary-Ann Ochota explore the 10 most remarkable properties in the country. They include the Lincoln restaurant with a tragic, murderous past, and a house in Shropshire that helped save the monarchy.

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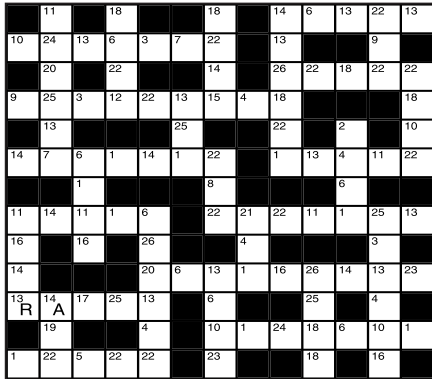
Puzzler

Brain Gym

No.227

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

X	B	M	R	W	I	S	K	Z	G	E	P	O
D	A	V	C	T	U	J	L	N	Y	H	Q	F

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

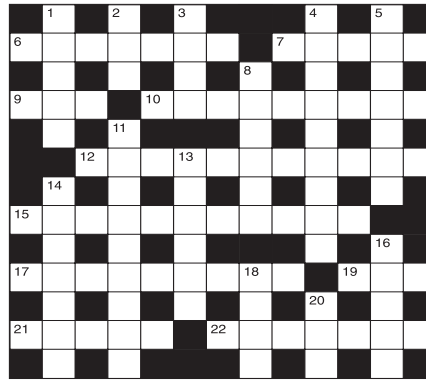
Cryptic Clues:

Across

6. Everybody was in debt - it's not forbidden (7)
 7. Timber needed for shafts (5)
 9. A New York word (3)
 10. The right alternative for the proof-reader (9)
 12. I made orders for desert transport (11)
 15. Venus is no matinee idol, apparently! (7-4)
 17. Slightly injured - withdrawn from the team (9)
 19. Aim in a given direction (3)
 21. Monetary securities producing personal restrictions (5)
 22. I strive to make another call (7)

Down

1. Cast used for supporting a weak member (5)
 2. This sly creature is a loud bellow (3)
 3. Money needed to settle the account, we hear, in this way (4)
 4. Inconstant, like a planet (9)
 5. I'm ready for the picture to be put on (7)
 8. Wedding belles (6)
 11. They certainly couldn't be accused of having too little spirit! (9)
 13. A stick-up with me around constitutes a threat (6)
 14. One who ousts the Eastern conqueror (7)
 16. Point at which metal-workers strike (5)
 18. Poetic end to the day is calm and unruffled (4)
 20. Short writing can be illuminated (3)



Quick Clues:

Across

6. Liberty (7)
 7. Lid (5)
 9. Insane (3)
 10. Impromptu (9)
 12. Essay (11)
 15. Cheeky (11)
 17. Deeply shocked (9)
 19. In favour of (3)
 21. Scatter (5)
 22. Attack (7)

Down

1. Handle (5)
 2. Determined (3)
 3. Trick (4)
 4. Fit (9)
 5. Censure (7)
 8. Diminish (6)
 11. Alien (9)
 13. Glib talk (6)
 14. Copy (7)
 16. Earth (5)
 18. Otherwise (4)
 20. Hiatus (3)

Sudoku

		1	6	2	5			
3			4	8			7	
				1				4
6		7	1				3	
	2			6		8		
	8		2		4			5
7				2				
	5			4	9		1	8
		4	5		7	2		

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

5	1	9	7	2	8	4	6	3
7	8	3	5	9	4	1	6	2
4	6	2	1	3	8	7	5	9
1	4	5	2	7	3	6	9	8
9	3	7	6	8	5	2	1	4
6	2	8	9	4	1	3	7	5
8	9	6	4	1	2	7	3	5
2	7	1	3	5	9	8	4	6
3	5	4	8	6	7	9	2	1

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
 CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Spine-chilling; 8 Trousers; 9 Duty; 10 Stayed; 12 Easter; 14 Editor; 16 Temple; 18 Spar; 20 Trailers; 22 Distinguished.
 Down: 1 Spirited; 2 Injury; 3 Acre; 4 Misspent; 5 Blades; 6 Knot; 11 Donating; 13 Enlarged; 15 Struts; 17 Molest; 19 Pair; 21 Arum. QUICK - Across: 7 United Kingdom; 8 Retiree; 9 Able; 10 Gentle; 12 Action; 14 Street; 16 Tested; 18 Goad; 20 Entrance; 22 Salvation Army. Down: 1 Interest; 2 Strict; 3 Idle; 4 Distract; 5 Aghast; 6 Toll; 11 Entreaty; 13 Overcome; 15 Endive; 17 Seaman; 19 Oral; 21 Trot.

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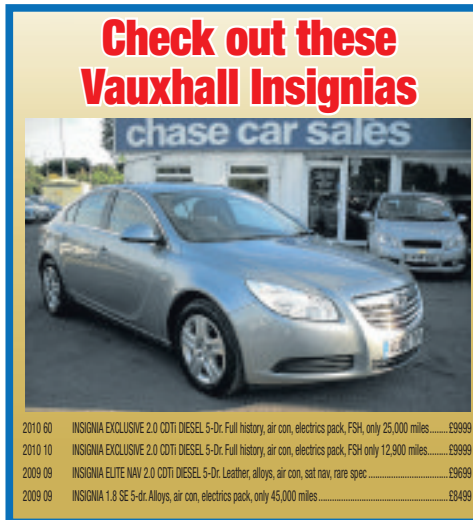
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2004 54 SANTA FE COX 2.0 CRDT DIESEL 5-Dr leather seats alloy aircon only 62,000 miles	£4,999
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DN12 UCB, 5672 Miles
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COSTS YOU: **£11,990**

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DV13 LLR, 950 Miles
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DS12 RMY, 6789 Miles
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Motoring

Vauxhall's new Astra is covering all options

By Bob Hickman

VAUXHALL, with the Astra, has a vehicle that really does cater for all eventualities. It comes as a hot-hatch, conventional saloon and now, with the introduction of a tourer or estate version, the range is complete.

The Astra hatch is one of the best selling vehicles and there is very little doubt that the estate version will soon fill another niche.

Surprisingly, the wheelbase of the tourer is the same as the hatchback, but the superior packaging has given a load length increase and its load volume has been increased dramatically, even with the rear seats up, as you would expect from an estate vehicle.

The extra carrying capacity has not been restricted to the rear section. Vauxhall has cleverly increased the interior storage space with an additional 25 litres, which is over half of what was there before. So now you store maps, bottles of water, the pop or all sorts of paraphernalia that you need.

The tourer's exterior design is quite pleasing on the eye and it is not a slab-like estate vehicle, the interior has also been worked over and all occupants benefit from a premium feel within the confines of the vehicle. I liked the ambient lighting effect and the wraparound front dashboard.

Massive

There is a massive choice of seven engines to choose from. Starting with the petrol options there is a 100ps 1.4-litre and also a turbo-charged 140 bhp 1.4-litre, in addition a 1.6-litre eco version is available. Diesels have a 1.3-litre which is equipped with a stop/go mechanism and two 1.7-litre engines with different power outputs, and an extremely powerful 2-litre diesel; all engines have reasonable but not frugal CO2 emissions.

My particular test vehicle, a 1.7-litre Cdi diesel, produces 130bhp, which was sufficient to give it a 0-60 time of marginally over 10 seconds and a top speed of 124 mph. Vauxhall claims 70.6mpg may be achievable on the combined cycle in a laboratory.

However, in real world driving, I achieved 58mpg, which for the size of the vehicle is quite commendable.

The level of equipment on all vehicles nowadays is quite good and even the entry level ES range has as standard air conditioning, a multitude of air bags, Electronic

Stability Control, electric parking brake and various other safety features.

Trim levels are badged as ES, Exclusiv, SE and SRI, and as you would expect there is a whole plethora of extra equipment if you so desire.

My particular derivative had a price tag of £20,955 and it benefits from Vauxhall's new lifetime 100,000 miles warranty. The range varies between £17,280 and £25,150.



The stylish Vauxhall Astra tourer offers a choice of seven engines



Vauxhall has increased the storage space inside the new Astra tourer

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 62 Astra 1.4 Active 5dr hatch, 17" alloys, Bluetooth, A/C, rear sensors 12200 miles, White £11499
 12 New Astra 1.6 Elite 5dr hatch, leather, 17" alloys, Climate control, 15900 miles, Black £11599
 61 New Astra 1.6 Elite 5dr AUTO, leather, alloys, parking sensors, 5000 miles, Black £11999
 62 New Astra 1.6 SRI 5dr hatch, Parking sensors, 19" alloys, 3400 miles, Sovereign Silver £12999
 61 Astra GTC 2.0 CDTi SRI, White, 17" alloys, 5500 miles, rear parking sensors £14999
 11 New Astra 2.0 CDTi SRI 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth + more, ex demo, 16100 miles, Silver £15999
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 62 Astra GTC 1.6 Turbo SRI, 19" alloys, Bluetooth, DAB, 2300 miles, EX demo, Red £16999
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 62 Corsa 1.2 Active 3dr, 16" alloys, Bluetooth, Half leather trim, 400 miles, Tech Grey £8999
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 62 Corsa 1.4 SXi 3dr hatch, 16" alloys, MP3 connection, A/C, 8500 miles, Waterworld £9999
 11 Corsa 1.2 Ltd Edition 3dr, Yellow, black alloys black roof, air con, 13800 miles £9999
 62 Corsa 1.2 SE 5dr White, Air con, Alloys, heated seats and steering wheel, 3200 miles £9999

MERIVA

08 Meriva 1.4 Breeze 5dr hatch, Elec windows/Mirrors, A/C, 28100 miles, Star Silver £5999
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 12 Zafira Tourer 2.0 CDTi SRI, Sat Nav, 19" alloys, Bluetooth, Ex demo, Black Sapphire £19999

INSIGNIA

10 Insignia 1.8 Exclusiv 5dr, 18" alloys, Bluetooth, front fogs, 28300 miles, Myth Green £8999
 59 Insignia 2.0 CDTi SRI 4dr saloon, 17" alloys, Cruise control, 25600 miles, Sovereign Silver £10499
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 10 Insignia 2.0 CDTi SE Estate, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, power tailgate, 29400 miles, Tech Grey £11999
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ANATRA

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 10 Anatra 2.0 SE Diesel Auto, Nav, Alloys, B/th, parking sensors, Placid grey, 42000 miles £12999
 62 Anatra 2.2 CDTi Exclusiv Diesel, White, parking sensors, Air con, Alloys, 4100 miles £16999

VXR

07 Corsa 1.6 VXR 3dr hatch, Irmischer Grille, 18" alloys, 47400 miles, Arden blue £8499
 12 Astra GTC VXR 2.0 280ps 3dr, 20" alloys, Aero Pack, Leather, 6800 miles, Red SAVE £1500 NOW £19999

COMMERCIALS

11 Vivaro 2.0 CDTi Sportive Crew cab, Alloys, Bluetooth, ply lined, 35200 miles, White £13499+vat

OTHER MODELS

07 Renault Clio 1.4 Dynamique 5dr hatch, 15" alloys, Air Con, 32500 miles, Silver £4499
 60 Mazda 5 Sport 2.0 5dr hatch, 7 seats, 17" alloys, full leather, 24000 miles, Blue £9999
 10 Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Titanium 5dr, Sat nav, Bluetooth, 22600 miles, Silver £10499



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deaths

BRADBURY

Chris

Chiropodist

Beloved Husband and Father

Sadly passed away on June 20, 2013.

His Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, July 4, at 10.30am, at Bushbury Crematorium.

Family flowers only please.

Donations to be made to Cancer Research UK c/o



The Family would like to thank everybody for the thoughtful cards and messages sent throughout his illness, which meant a lot to him.

DIBBLE

Angela Mary

Of Cannock passed away peacefully after a long illness on June 18, 2013, aged 54 years.

She was much loved and will always be missed by all her Family and Friends.

Angela will be received into St Mary's R.C. Church, Cannock on Thursday, June 27 at 4.30pm and her Requiem Mass will be held on Friday, June 28, at 10am followed by a Cremation, at Stafford Crematorium, at 11.30am.

Everyone is welcome to join the Family afterwards at St Mary's Church Hall.

Family flowers only, but donations would be appreciated for the Brain Tumour Charity and may be handed to the Family or sent to



Memories unfold as we think of you, a real Mum through and through. You suffered in silence everyday, an illness that would not go away. But now you have no more pain, for God's loving arms have healed you again.

Daughters Sarah and Emily

Sister

There's a place in our hearts no one can fill, We miss you Angela and always will.

Sean, Helen, Joe and Josh.

X X X

We travelled many roads together, the last three have been the hardest.

We miss you so much, God bless.

Love Brother Alan, Sister-in-law and best Friend Stella, Nephews Dean and Luke, Alice and Elliot.

X X X

DACE

Jean Mary

nee Parrington

Sadly passed away suddenly on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 aged 71 years.

Funeral Service to take place on Tuesday, July 2, 2013, at St Luke's Church, at 11am, followed by Cremation at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only. donations if desired for the Air Ambulance.

EARLL

Leslie Jack

Passed away peacefully on June 20, 2013, aged 89 years. Sadly missed by all his Family and Friends.

Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Tuesday, July 2, at 2.30pm.

The Family invites everyone to join them at The Greenheath Club, Blewett Street, Hednesford.

Family flowers only please.

Donations for Katherine House Hospice c/o GEORGE STACEY Funeral Directors

30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford
WS12 4AR
01543 422524

EARLL

Leslie Jack

It broke my heart to lose you but you didn't go alone, for part of me went with you the day God called you home.

Beloved Wife Irene

In life I loved you dearly, in death I love you still, in my heart you hold a place that no one could ever fill.

Things will never be the same and although it hurts so bad I will smile whenever I hear your name and be proud you were my Dad.

Brokenhearted Daughter Christine and Son-in-law Chris.

Those we love remain with us, for love itself lives on. Cherished memories never fade because our Grandad's gone. Those we love can never be more than a thought apart, for as long as we have memories, you will live on in our hearts.

Grandchildren, Leigh and Zoe and Craig and Shannon, Great-Grandchildren Edward, George, Oliver and Avery.

He always tried to do his best, his heart was true and tender. He simply lived for those he loved and those he loved remember.

Dear Dad you will be forever in our hearts.

Son Andrew, Daughter-in-law Clare and Grandchildren Michael, Rachel, Jack and Harry.

EARLL

Leslie

We wish that we could see you Dad for just a little while, we wish that we could hug you and see your lovely smile but wishing gets us nowhere and longing is in vain, so we will hold you in our hearts until we meet again.

Love always.

Daughter Sue, Son-in-law Harry and Grandchildren.

GOUGH

Keith Hugh

Sadly passed away on June 21, 2013.

A loving Husband, Father and Grandad.

Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Wednesday, July 3, at 2pm.

Refreshments afterwards at The Seven Stars, Breton.

Family flowers only please.

Donations if desired to St Giles Hospice c/o GEORGE STACEY Funeral Directors

30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford
WS12 4AR
01543 422524

JAMES

Gwendoline

nee Pockett

Formerly of Hednesford, passed away peacefully on June 18, 2013, aged 80 years.

Funeral Service will take place on Friday, June 28, at St Peter's Church, Hednesford, at 11am, followed by Interment in the Churchyard.

Any further inquiries GEORGE STACEY Funeral Directors

30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford
WS12 4AR
01543 422524

JONES

Philip Roy

Passed away at his home suddenly on June 20, 2013, aged 50 years.

The Funeral Service will take place at St Luke's Church, Cannock, on Friday, July 5, 2013, at 10.30am, followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium.

Flowers welcome or donations if desired for Cancer Research.

All inquiries to HALLIWELL FUNERAL SERVICE
164, Walsall Road,
Great Wyrley.
WS6 6NQ.
Telephone 01922 419090.

LYNALL

Judith Veronica

Passed away peacefully on June 11, 2013.

Much loved by all her Family and Friends, she will be sadly missed.

Her Funeral Service will take place on Monday, July 1, at 12 noon, at Stafford Crematorium.

Donations if desired for National Heart and Lung Institute Foundation.

For all further inquiries please contact



MERRICKS

George

Sadly passed away on Thursday June 13.

His Funeral Service will be on Friday July 5 at 12.30pm at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please, donations, if desired to St. Giles Hospice and Air Ambulance.

PUGH

Irene

Mom

Passed away June 14, 2013. Mom you were so special in everything that you did you've always taken care of me and shared a love so true.

You have the sweetest smile that there could ever be and most of all I love you for always loving me.

Daughter Maureen.

R.I.P.

X X X

Nan

Will always love you and miss you deeply.

Rest in peace now Nan.

With love, Sue and Mike.

X X X

PUGH

Irene

Passed away June 14, 2013.

Deeply loved Mom.

Will be in our hearts forever.

Son Bob and Chris.

X X X

STEER

Mark

Sadly missed.

From Brother Neil and Family.

X X X

TAVERNOR

Charles John

Passed away on Sunday, June 23, at the age of 90. Beloved Father of Peter and Elizabeth and Grandfather of Sarah, Jonathan, Edward and Callum.

A faithful servant of the Lord and Treasurer for many years of St Chad's Church.

Funeral Service to be held at St Chad's Church, Chadswood on Monday, July 1, at 2.15pm.

Family flowers only please, donations to St Chad's Church would be most welcome.

Any further inquiries to GEORGE STACEY Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford
WS12 4AR
Telephone 01543 422524.

THOMAS

Christine

Passed away peacefully on Monday, June 17, 2013, aged 86 years.

Sadly missed by all her Family.

The Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Friday, June 28, 2013, at 3.30pm.

Flowers welcome or donations if desired. These will be forwarded to Parkinson's UK.

A Donation tube will be available at the Crematorium, cheques should be made payable to the chosen charity.

Any further inquiries to CO-OPERATIVE FUNERALCARE
106, Hednesford Road,
Heath Hayes.
01543 495609.

TRANTER

Betty

If flowers grow in Heaven, Lord then pick a bunch for me, then place them in my Mothers arms and tell her they're from me, tell her that I love and miss her and when she turns to smile, place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for awhile.

From your loving Son David, Yvonne, Nigel, Stephen and Emma.

X X X

TRANTER

Betty

A beautiful memory dearer than gold, of a Mum whose worth can never be told.

There's a place in our hearts no one can fill, we miss you Mum and always will.

With heartfelt sadness.

Everloving Daughter Jill, Son-in-law Mick.

X X

TRANTER

Betty

Dear Mom we will treasure our memories.

Love and miss you and look forward to the promise of the resurrection.

John 5/25/27.

Love always, Rob, Ann, Dean, Luke and Flynn.

X X X

TRANTER

Betty

Nan

It broke our hearts to lose you but you did not go alone, for part of us went with you, on your final journey home.

Love always, Kellie, Martyn and Adam.

X X X

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENT CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Please note that the deadline for our weekly Cannock Chronicle is 11.30am every Tuesday for the same weeks edition.

in memoriam

DAINTY

Ada

Mom, Nan and Great-Nan.

Land Army Girl.

One year June 27th.

Gone are the days we used to share but in our hearts you are always there, your presence we miss, your memory we treasure, loving you always forgetting you never.

Love always.
Jan, Rob, John, Andrea, Laura and Harry.

X X X

SCHOFIELD

Cliff

Wonderful Husband, Dad and Grandad.

Six years June 30.

Silent thoughts, tears unseen, wishing your absent was only a dream.

We love and miss you every day and wish with all our hearts you were here today.

God bless you.
Your loving Family.

X X X

acknowledgements

REANEY

Alfred Thomas

Sadly passed away on May 18, 2013, aged 84 years.

Alf's Family wish to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, messages of sympathy and donations to the Teenage Cancer Trust, (Stephen Sutton), of £152.

grave tending

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Family Announcements continue on page 98

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kitchens & bathrooms

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items for sale

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plans prepared

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plastering

4 Pets & Animals
equestrian corner

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pets corner

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Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

BORDER TERRIER bitch puppy, 7 weeks old, £350 can deliver. 07747 627340.

CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL PUPPIES, superb litter, home reared, vet checked, insured, KC reg. 0121 351149.

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business directory

commercial premises

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6 Property
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NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

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MODERN 1 BED FLAT, close Hednesford Town Centre, DG, CH, off road parking. 07896 034312.

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5 Business & Farming
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All positions immediately available and offer excellent rate of pay together with training and the opportunity for career development

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Working in our dedicated Bodyshop on all types of vehicles and trailers, body repairs, welding and fabrication, refurbishments and new build work. Tailfit fitment / Repair experience an advantage.

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Working with the paintshop team, includes all aspects of preparation, finishing and refitting of vehicles and trailers.

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Working in our dedicated Bodyshop you will gain experience of all aspect on body build, repairs, refurbishment, and paint spray work. A good opportunity to develop your skills in a busy commercial vehicle environment.

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To support general cleaning duties in the workshop bodyshop customer and yard areas.
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Interested?
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part time - general

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full time - general

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overseas property

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in quiet village in Brittany. Also plot of land.
76,000 Euros
More details 01543 491915.

properties wanted

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Experience Essential
Must have own van
Good rates for right applicant
01543 674404

8 Motoring
cars over £1500

BMW 318ES, 2003, 70,628 miles, graphite grey, fsh, 12 months MOT, excellent condition, looks and drives superb. £2,500 ono. 07443 456803.

FIESTA STYLE 125cc, silver, 5 door, 45,689 miles, 6 months Tax and MOT. Good condition £1,789. 01889 500635.

LANDROVER DEFENDER
SWB hard top. Silver. MOT. Lots of extras.
MOT history and bills.
Many new parts.
£3,000.
07772 078062.

MAZDA 6 Sport, 2008, 1 lady owner, 88K miles, full MOT, FSH, 4 new tyres, 7 months tax, excellent condition, £7,900 ono. 07501 459453.

MERCEDES CLK 220CDi, Avant Garde, Coupe, leather, black, diesel, reg. 22/12/06, MOT June 2014, £4,350 ono. 0762 227220.

★ **PEUGEOT 1007**, 2006, 24,900 miles, grey, air con, 11 months MOT, 4 months tax, petrol, £2,000 ono. Call 01889 504227 or 07971 418450.

SUZUKI JIMNY 1300cc petrol auto, 2006, 12,000 miles, tax, New wheel drive, air con, cd, black leather, £4,600. 01543 876489.

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FIAT PUNTO Sporting, 6 speed, 02 plate, 12 months MOT, 2 months tax, 71k miles, ill health forces sale, £875 ono. 07842 568964.

FIAT SEICENTO Y reg, 1100cc, tax Oct, MOT Apr 13, alloy wheels, very good condition, £550 ono. 0121 556 9594.

FIAT JULYSE
JTD 16V Td 1300cc diesel, seven seater people carrier, 2003, new shape, fully loaded, full MOT, long tax, low mileage, absolute bargain
£1,400
07799 586849.

FORD FIESTA 1.1, 1991, J reg, 72k, tax, MOT, CD, blue, 4dr, clean and tidy, £475 ono. 07584 191793.

FORD KA 1998, S reg, red, 86k, tax, MOT Nov 13, alloy wheels, £495. 07970 801560 (Darlaston).

FORD KA STYLE 2002, 1 year MOT, cd player, power steering, very nice condition, £500. 07435 063130.

FORD MONDEO diesel estate, 2005, Ghia, tax and MOT, £900 ovno. 07592 366233 or 01384 352971.

FORD MONDEO, Y reg, 2 L, 2tec, 12 months MOT, superb runner, comfortable, reliable, good condition, bargain at £595. 01543 321809.

MAZDA MX5 coup, silver cabriolet, 7000 miles, Tax, MOT, excellent condition with hard top, £1,350 ono. 07826 271902.

MERCEDES C220 CDI silver, 2004, W reg, 160K miles, MOT Feb 2013, 07930 753615, Oldbury.

MITSUBISHI PAJERO 2.5 R reg, SWB, tow bar, good all round, tax, MoT'd, £350 ono. 07519 724789.

MITSUBISHI SHOWGUN 19996 model, V6, 24 LWB, auto, 7 seater, full MoT with every conceivable extra, including tow bar, looks and drives superb, give away at only £1,200. 07799 586849.

VAUXHALL Agila, 2002 engine rebuilt, front moderate damage, runs/drives, offers. 07902 418103.

VAUXHALL Astra 1.6, Sdr, 69,000 miles, 12 months MoT, R reg, 4 new tyres, £2400 ono. 07530 436626.

commercial vehicles

CITROEN BERLINGO 2.0 HDI van, 2003, 12 months MoT, serviced, side loading door, excellent condition, £1,495 ono. 07831 885831.

driving tuition

Homer's Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto, 207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris. 10 Hours £291 Five Hours £201 2 Hours £201 All Areas Covered **MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS** MANUAL & AUTOMATIC Christmas & Birthday gift vouchers available. 07870 200066 / 01922 780250 01562 970050 / 01364 234954 01543 660120 / 0121 564 0090 01902 580065 www.homersdrivingchool.co.uk

motorbikes

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CHASE MOTORCYCLE TRAINING CBT to Direct Access PIT instructors Always Required CALL US NOW 0845 757 3402 www.chasemotorcycletraining.co.uk

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CASH TODAY for all scrap cars & vans Scrap it legally Avoid fines We supply a certificate of destruction. Licence no: EA/WML40301 No Worries Call Chris: 01902 493110 Daytime 0121 525 5813 01902 569775 - evenings

MCB TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS Tel: 01902 408176 1000's of parts available at all times MONMORE RD, WV1 2TZ

spares & accessories

accessories & services

EA/MJK Private number plate, on retention, £850. 07970 992872. **SMALL TRAILER** 4ft x 3ft, modified with lockable compartments, ideal market trader, car booter, disco. £250 ono. 07881 768546.

9 Local Information

public & legal notices



ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED) ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

B4156 STATION STREET, CHESLYN HAY DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AND TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF ON-STREET PARKING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of B4156 Station Street, Cheslyn Hay between its junctions with Littlewood Lane and Westbourne Avenue unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works. Access to off-street frontages will be limited dependent upon the progress of the works but through access will not be permitted. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

For the duration of these works it will be necessary to prohibit on-street parking on Station Street.

The preferred alternative route for traffic will be available via B4156 Station Street, B4156 High Street, Landywood Lane, Hilton Lane, A34 Walsall Road, B4156 Station Road and vice versa.

THE ORDER WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON 01 JULY 2013 AT 09.00, AND THE SAID WORKS WILL COMMENCE ON OR AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO THAT DATE. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED BY 03 JULY 2013 AT 17.00.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the carriageway resurfacing works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road, have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director of Law and Democracy
No. 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP
Ref: S22428; Enquiries: Guy Pryer; Tel: 0300 111 8000
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders
Date: 27 June 2013

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (As Amended) Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991

SPINNEY LANE, BURNWOOD DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of Spinney Lane, Burnwood between its junctions with Rugeley Road and Robinson Road unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or unless the vehicle requires access to premises on the length of road or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes. Vehicular access outside of working hours will be made available when possible. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

The preferred alternative route for traffic will be available via Rugeley Road, Chorley Road, North Street, Spinney Lane and vice versa.

THE ORDER WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON 15 JULY 2013 AT 07.00, AND THE SAID WORKS WILL COMMENCE ON OR AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO THAT DATE. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED BY 19 JULY 2013 AT 18.00.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the carriageway resurfacing works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road, have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director of Law and Democracy
No. 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP
Ref: S22428; Enquiries: Simon Richards; Tel: 0300 111 8000
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders
Date: 27 June 2013

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (As Amended) Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991

HIGH STREET, CHASE TERRACE DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of High Street, Chase Terrace between its junctions with Rugeley Road and Railway Lane unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or unless the vehicle requires access to premises on the length of road or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes. Vehicular access outside of working hours will be made available when possible. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

The preferred alternative route for traffic will be available via Rugeley Road, Cannock Road, Ironstone Road, High Street and vice versa.

THE ORDER WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON 15 JULY 2013, AND THE SAID WORKS WILL COMMENCE ON OR AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO THAT DATE. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED BY 26 JULY 2013.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the carriageway resurfacing works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road, have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director of Law and Democracy
No. 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP
Ref: S22430; Enquiries: Simon Richards; Tel: 0300 111 8000
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders
Date: 27 June 2013

THE COUNCIL IS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING PROPOSALS

Application affecting the setting Cannock Town Centre Conservation Area

CH/13/0196

1 Market Place, Cannock

New Shop Front.

Application affecting the setting Cannock Town Centre Conservation Area

CH/13/0197

1 Market Place, Cannock

Internally illuminated fascia sign, internally illuminated projecting sign, two internally illuminated light box's and ATM surround. All applications may be inspected at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock. Applications relating to Rugeley and Brereton may also be inspected at the Rugeley Area Housing Office, Anson Street, Rugeley. The Council has published a Service Charter for publicity and information about planning applications and a Code of Conduct for the Planning Process both of which are obtainable from Council Offices free of charge.

If you wish to make comments about any of the above proposals you should do so in writing to the Planning Services Manager, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG by 18/07/2013 Please include a daytime telephone number in your reply and quote the appropriate reference when calling or writing.

www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004 CANNOCK CHASE DISTRICT COUNCIL (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT OF PARKING) CAR PARK AT RUGELEY ROAD/VICTORIA STREET, HEDNESFORD, CANNOCK (WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2013

1. Notice is hereby given that the Cannock Chase District Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 32, 33, 35, 124(1) (d), and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Traffic Management Act 2004 and under The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 and of all other enabling powers, and subject to the approval of the County Council of Staffordshire and the Chief Officer of Police, propose to make an Order under the said Acts, the effect of which is to control the general use of parking places described in the Schedule to the Order.
2. The purpose of the Order is to limit the parking of vehicles to a maximum period of four hours (with no return being permitted within 1 hour) Monday to Saturday only (excluding Bank Holidays), between the hours of 07:30 and 18:30, and sets out the powers of enforcement in the event of there being a contravention of any provision of the Order.
3. Exemptions have been provided in the Order for essential and emergency services and for pedal/motor cycles.
4. A copy of the proposed Order and plan showing the location of the relevant car park, together with a copy of the Council's Statement of Reasons for making the Order, may be inspected Mondays to Fridays between the hours of 9.00am and 5.00pm at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1BG, until the 8th August 2013.
5. Objections to the proposed Order and any other representations may be made to the undersigned at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1BG by no later than 18th July 2013. All objections and representations must be made in writing (quoting reference GF/H1418), and all objections must specify the grounds on which they are made.

Dated this 27th day of June 2013

Alistair R Welch
Council Solicitor

PUBLIC NOTICE CANNOCK CHASE DISTRICT COUNCIL NOTICE OR PUBLIC RIGHTS AUDIT COMMISSION ACT 1998 (SS 15, 16) ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REGULATIONS, 2011 REGULATIONS 9, 10, 21, 22, 23

NOTICE IS GIVEN that from Tuesday 9 July, 2013 to Monday 5 August, 2013 between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. any person interested may inspect, and make copies of the accounts of the above named District Council for the year ended 31 March, 2013 and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts relating thereto. The accounts and other documents will be available for inspection at the offices at which they are normally kept or otherwise by arrangement; application should be made initially to the Head of Finance, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, telephone number (01543) 462621.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that on or after Tuesday 6 August, 2013 at 10.00 a.m. until completion of the audit, the auditor, at the request of the local government elector for any area to which the accounts relate, will give the elector or his representative an opportunity, under Section 15 and 16 of the Audit Commission Act, 1998, to question him about the accounts and make objections as to any matter in respect of which the auditor could take action under the Act (namely an unlawful item of account, failure to bring a sum into account, or loss of deficiency caused by wilful misconduct) or could make a report in the public interest under Section 8 of the Act.

Questions may be received at the Civic Centre by arrangement with the auditor, Mr G Patterson, Engagement Lead, Grant Thornton UK LLP, Colmore Plaza, 20 Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6AT - telephone 0121 232 5296 to whom requests for this purpose should be addressed. No objection may be made unless the auditor has previously received written notice of the proposed objections and its grounds. A copy of this notice must be sent to the Head of Finance at the address below.

R. Kean
Head of Finance

Civic Centre
PO Box 28
Beecroft Road
Cannock

TEL: 01543 462621 www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER SECTION 34 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice is hereby given that an application has been to Cannock Chase District Council By: Mr Chris Carter (on behalf of the members)

For: Chase Social Workers Club 848 Pye Green Road Hednesford Staffordshire WS12 4LN

It is proposed to vary the existing premises licence to:

- 1) Amend the current premises licence to extend the business hours permitting the sale of alcohol
- 2) Provide notification to reduce the permitted conditions of the current entertainment licence

A full version of this application can be viewed at The Licensing Unit, Cannock Chase District Council, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock.

Representations should be made before 12/7/2013 to: The Head of Environmental Health Cannock Chase District Council Civic Centre

Beecroft Road Cannock WS11 1BG licensing unit@cannockchasedc.gov.uk 01543 462621 01543 464489

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is not exceeding £5000.

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

marriages



GOODALL PAUL & EMMA

Clive and Shirley Goodall have much pleasure in announcing the Marriage of their dearest Son Paul to Miss Emma Grant

Saturday 29th June at 12.30pm at Christ Church Christchurch Lane, Lichfield

followed by their Wedding Breakfast at Swinfen Hall. Together with all their Family and Friends we wish them much joy and happiness on both their special day and wonderful honeymoon.

May God's Blessing and Good Health be with you both always.

births

MANTON nee Bennett
Congratulations Jessica and Gareth on the birth of your gorgeous Son Oscar Louie, on 7th June 2013. A little Brother for Leo.

All our love, Mom, Dad, Kelly, Ashley, Imogen and Amelia. X X



GIBBS

Congratulations to Penny and Mark on the birth of your baby boy born June 24, 2013. Our first Great-Grandchild. All our love and best wishes, Grandma and Grandad.

X X X

lost & found

LOST CAT - Black with white chest and speckled gold collar, Cheslyn Hay. 01922 417085.

thank you

THANK YOU FROM JOY
A huge thank you to all who came to my 60th party.

Thank you everyone for your kind wishes, presents and donations for St Giles' Hospice, the amazing sum of £960 was raised.

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Opening bowlers take on the best

TWO bowlers from Cannock Cricket Club have had the chance to bowl at some of the world's best cricket players over the past three weeks.

Ed Fleet, 19, and Jack Twigger, 17, were chosen as net bowlers for the ICC Champions Trophy tournament at Edgbaston.

The pair open the bowling for Cannock's First team on Saturdays but tested their skills against the best players in the world as they took part in net sessions.

Twigger said: "I was extremely nervous and excited when I found out I had been accepted to be a net bowler but everybody was really friendly when I got there. The main thing I learnt was the value of practice."

"The professionals practise hard-er than anybody and that's why they make it to the top."

Fleet said: "It was interesting for somebody who wants to improve as a player to go and see how the professionals handle themselves even though it's only practice. They approach it with a completely different mentality and I was surprised at how seriously they take it."

Sail away to pick up the basics

A BEAUTY spot is offering youngsters a chance to learn the basics of sailing.

Youth Sailing @ Chasewater's latest RYA Start Sailing sessions for Under 18s starts on July 6 and 7.

RYA Start Sailing is an introduction to sailing with sessions including starting, stopping and turning, launching and recovering, rigging and safety. All equipment, such as buoyancy aids and training boats are supplied. All that is needed is a change of clothes, old trainers and a towel.

The club meets on Saturdays from 9.30am to 1pm until mid-October.

The RYA Start Sailing sessions cost £65 per person, including two follow on Saturday morning sessions. It costs £5 per week to then carry on sailing at YS@C, which includes the use of kit such as boat, wetsuits, spray tops, buoyancy aids.

For full details on how to sign up for the RYA Start Sailing Under-18 sessions, visit www.chasesc.org.uk

Jack's the lad as youngsters visit HQ



Heath Hayes, in blue, are forced to defend against Wolverhampton Casuals

Wolverhampton Casuals 3 Heath Hayes under-15s 1

TWO Jack Clarke goals helped Wolverhampton Casuals to a victory over Heath Hayes at the FA's Staffordshire headquarters.

The two sides could potentially meet in the Midland Junior Premier League during 2013/14, but played out this friendly at the impressive St George's Park, Burton.

Players were given a tour of the facilities before the game, played over five 15-minute periods.

Staged principally as a training course for future referees, the rival

Football

teams enjoyed a lively encounter on a lush playing surface. Casuals created the better chances in the early stages and had a goal ruled out for offside.

It took them until the second period for them to open the scoring through Dominic McSherry and they doubled the advantage during period three with an outstanding long-range effort from Clarke.

Hayes were not out of it and Josh Wilding produced a decent effort, while Jack Smith and Regan Smith

forced good saves from the goalkeeper before Osiris Hammond pulled a goal back.

Their joy was short-lived as Clarke hit another terrific long-ranger past the excellent Tony Allsopp in the Hayes goal, giving the scoreline a more flattering outlook.

Hayes boss Jan Scott was proud of his team's efforts.

He said: "Everyone did great. They will never play on a pitch as good as that for a long time."

"It was a great experience and I thought we did very well, encouraging for next year," he added.

Smith is keen to keep Paterson at Saddlers

DEAN SMITH says Walsall will not be forced to sell star players such as Jamie Paterson on the cheap.

The Saddlers last month rejected a bid from Championship outfit Huddersfield Town for the 21-year-old winger.

Paterson, who still has one year remaining on his current contract, has emerged as one of the Saddlers' brightest young prospects and has been named as the club's young player of the year for the past two seasons.

Smith is keen to keep hold of a player who scored 13 goals last season and says he is under no pressure to sell, hinting that any successful bid would have to be a significant increase on that received from the Terriers.

"Their valuation was miles apart from ours," said Smith. "When you have a relatively successful season, your players get looked at and an approach was expected."

"I fully understand clubs being interested in him after what he did last season."

"Jamie is a massive part of the team," Smith added.

"I'm very fortunate in terms of the support I get from the chairman and the board."

"We are not going to be selling our best players for nothing."

"Jamie has been at the club for a long time and we don't want to sell him."

The Saddlers returned for training this week with

Saddlers

the futures of forward duo Will Grigg and Febian Brandy still very much undecided.

Smith expects a decision from Grigg "either way" soon, though Brandy wants to play Championship football and is attracting interest from League One rivals Sheffield United.

Despite the uncertainty, the manager is confident the club are in a much stronger position than 12 months ago, when just six senior players were signed up.

To date Smith has a squad of 16 and that number will increase with defender Ben Purkiss ready to sign a new deal, along with former youth teamers Jake Heath, Danny Griffith and Liam Roberts, who have all been offered contracts.

"It's the direction we want the club to be going in, where there is not a big turnover of players," said Smith.

Sevens gain their second pot of silverware

RUGELEY Rugby Club's Sevens teams took home silverware for a second time in successive tournaments at the weekend.

The Trentham Sevens was the second event in the four tournament Staffordshire Sevens series.

Rugeley started slowly with a comprehensive defeat to the hosts before a narrow five point loss to Eccleshall.

They got form in the third match with a comfortable victory over Wednesbury, which saw them enter the plate competition for the knockout phase.

Strongly

Rugeley were now in full flow and started strongly against Cannock in the semi with Matthew Willis and Mitchell Everall punching holes up front on leaving gaps for the speed merchants Michael Wilkes and Ceiron Griffin to exploit.

A try from Jack Richards sealed the victory and set up a Plate Final against Trentham.

Rugeley spent much of the opening exchanges of the final stuck in their own half. Good tackling from Nathan Homer and Luke Paggett produced turnovers which

Jake Graham and Michael Wilkes were able to exploit. Rugeley went into the inter-



The winning team, back from left, Luke Paggett, Matt Joss, Mitch Everall, Matt Willis, Barrie Newton, Jordan Wood, Michael Wilkes, Liam Morrison, Nathan Homer. Front from left, Jack Richards, Ceiron Griffin, Jake Graham, David Bagnall

val with a three try lead. Matt Joss was introduced to add some power to the midfield and he promptly forced his way through the Trentham defence and the ball went out to the wing.

David Bagnall for the score. Trentham then sparked into life and scored a try of their own. Barrie Newton

and Martin de Ridder came of the bench to shore up the defence and between them engineered a choke tackle to stifle the Trentham attack and seal the Plate victory.

Barton under Needwood won the cup completion. The Staffordshire Series moves on to Cannock

Rugby Club on Saturday July 13 where Rugeley are the defending champions.

Rugeley begin pre-season training this Saturday at 1.30pm at St Augustine's field on Station Road behind the church.

New and returning players are invited to attend.

Leaders stay top with draw

Cannock 3rds 123-7
Whitmore Reans 2nds 197-8
Losing draw Cannock

LEAGUE leaders Cannock visited second placed Whitmore Reans and came away with a losing draw which was enough to keep them at the head of the table near the half way stage.

Cannock won the toss and elected to field and after a slow start Whitmore Reans posted 197-8 with Ali Abbas top scoring with 102.

Cannock's bowlers performed well without much luck, Kieran Squire taking 3-40 and Ryan Pearce 2-32.

On a difficult pitch and chasing a large total, Cannock were content to settle for the losing draw. With the pitch cutting up they batted carefully to close on 123-7 with Tom Bull (47) and Ian Slym (23) the top scorers.

Cannock 2nds 203-6
Aston Manor 2nds 204-5
Aston won by 5 wickets

Despite posting a sizable total Cannock found themselves losing to Aston Manor by five wickets.

Batting first Cannock scored 203-6 with their first four batsmen Mike Stevenson (32) Adam Evans (59), Connor Shingler (40) and John Cooke (48) leading the way. In reply Aston Manor got off to a flying start and never looked back with Mohammed Aqil scoring a match-winning century to give the visitors a five-wicket victory.

First-ever final ends with defeat

Cannock & Rugeley District Schools League Cup Final
St Joseph's Hedsnesford 0
Ridgeway 4

ST JOSEPH'S fell short in their first-ever cup final against an excellent Ridgeway team.

A close first half ended with Ridgeway scoring right on half-time.

The second half continued to be an excellent encounter with both teams creating chances, including a brilliantly struck free-kick from Conor Williams that hit the crossbar.

Ridgeway scored three goals later in the second half to claim the trophy.

All St Joseph's players gave everything they had for the school and their efforts to reach the final made their teacher extremely proud.

St Joseph's Man of the Match was James Moore.

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The life of Riley as he hammers 181 in win

AUSTRALIAN Riley Ward struck a sublime 181 from just 110 balls as Lichfield thumped Whittington by 226 runs in the Staffs Club Championship.

His innings, which included 11 sixes and 20 fours, helped his side rack up 345-7. Stuart Fielding scored 87. Hosts Whittington suffered a dramatic collapse. They seemed comfortable at 107-3 with Tris Tanner (54) and Dan Hackett (30) well set, but superb bowling from James Liddard and James Wilkinson saw them 119 all out. Wilkinson had 6-29.

Hawkins Sports remain top of the pile after a three-wicket win at home to Hammerwich.

Muhammad Fayaz was the star bowler for the hosts, claiming 5-49 as the visitors failed to capitalise on a decent start and finished on 152-9 from 50 overs. John Ackrill Jr made 50.

Todd Allen (4-49) and Danny King (3-24) kept Hammerwich in the game – but a fine 65 from Lee Evans proved crucial.

Imran Tariq claimed four wickets as Aldridge claimed a four-wicket triumph against Beacon.

Ponder hits 66 but total not enough

SWINDON'S fine run continued as they defeated Cannock and Rugeley by four wickets in an entertaining game in the Staffs Club Championship.

Batting first, visitors C&R looked to have posted a solid score as they made 222-7 from 49 overs, thanks in large part to Ryan Ponder's fine 66.

But the hosts made a mockery of the tough conditions as they raced to victory in just 35 overs thanks to an impressive team batting display.

Opener Paul Wale top-scored with 56 but five other players broke the 20 barrier.

Iqbal Masood claimed six wickets as Pelsall cruised past Old Wulfrunians Tethenall at home by 10 wickets.

Masood finished with 6-22 as the visitors were bowled out for just 60.

Pelsall openers Paul Grainger (36) and Paul McPherson (20) then took just 10.3 overs to reach the meagre target.

Ray has last word to claim the title



Ray receiving his reward from Janice Gower

AN indoor bowler from Cannock won a top award after a week of games came down to his final wood.

The matches were held at the TLH Indoor Bowls Arena Torquay where England international Janice Gower was guest host of a week of bowls with players coming from all over to enjoy the midweek break.

The final game of the week was fought between Malcolm Morris of Ammanford, South Wales and Ray Smith of Cannock and literally came down to the last bowl of the last end.

Ray had only seven inches of room to make two shots and tie the game up. He steered his last bowl around a

Indoor bowls

short bowl and sat right next to the jack which meant the points for that individual game gave him the week's top reward of a crystal clock.

Surroundings

The week also included fun events and quizzes which gave the group a wonderful time, with also plenty of time to explore the facilities on site and take in the lovely surroundings of Torquay.

All the bowlers commented at the end of the week on how they enjoyed

the whole event and in particular the disabled bowlers congratulated TLH on the way they catered for them.

The event proved the game is a sport for all with able-bodied, disabled and wheelchair players all enjoying the camaraderie of the week.

Next year's week break will be from June 9-13 and TLH have managed to keep the price at the same level as this year.

Bookings are already going well for the event.

For further information or to join the break contact Terri Kennard on 01803 400108.

Murad rips into batting for Penk's crushing win

Penkridge CC 1st XI -165 -8 Kings Heath CC 1st XI -72
Penkridge won by 93 runs

PENKRIDGE first team maintained their position at the top of the league as they took maximum points in a rain-affected game at Kings Heath.

After losing the toss, Penkridge made a slow start in difficult batting conditions but good contributions from Ronnie Hassan (36) and Attiq Chishti (42) enabled them to post a respectable 165 for 8 in 42 overs. In reply, Kings Heath were soon in disarray as Muhammad Murad (6-29) once again ripped through the opposition batting order as they were dismissed for just 72 for a 93-run victory.

Stourbridge 2nd XI 230-5

Penkridge 2nd XI 231-3

Penkridge won by 7 wickets

The 2nds returned to winning ways with an impressive victory over Stourbridge 2nds in another rain-affected match.

After winning the toss and electing to bowl, Penkridge restricted Stourbridge's scoring with Jon Price bowling a misery spell of 1-34 off his 15.

Youngest Shirjeel Mir (2-22) also bowled well but some late big hitting allowed Stourbridge to post 230-5.

The rain then came and Penkridge's innings was reduced to just only had 34 overs with 157 needed for the winning draw.

However Penkridge had no interest in the draw and went out all guns blazing scoring at 10 an over.

When Ian Brown (28) was run out Penkridge were 75-3 but a fantastic partnership

Cricket

between Usman Khan (58 no) and the explosive Andy Lawson (92no off 41 balls) as they were dismissed for just 72 for a 93-run victory.

Penkridge 3rd XI 189

Coseley 1st XI 191-1

Coseley won by 9 wickets

Penkridge thirds went down to Coseley 1sts in a one-sided affair. After losing the toss, Penkridge made steady progress but their batsmen failed to make any significant scores as they were dismissed for 189 with Steve Jones (29) and KK Sadiq (38). Coseley cruised to victory in the 35th over for the loss of one wicket.

Wightwick & Finchfield 3rd XI 221

Penkridge 4th XI 136

W&F won by 86 runs

Penkridge fourths lost their first game of the season as they went down by 84 runs to Wightwick 3rds.

Penk's Gaz Oliver (2-29) and Tom Porter (2-26) were the pick of the bowlers as Wightwick hit 221-6. They and Martin Porter showed late resistance as Penk were dismissed for 136.

Drivers rally to take part in Midsummers event



Stafford's Ron Aiken and Brian Neale, of Heath Hayes who were the best CDCC crew

ON Midsummer weekend Cannock and District Car Club staged a new racing event – Rally Mini Midlands, replacing the Rally of the Midlands.

More than 60 teams made the start line at the MIRA test centre, Nuneaton. A top 10 consisted of four Metro 6R4, four-wheel drive cars, a Darran T9, Mitsubishi Evo 4 and four versions of Ford Escorts, an RS, Mk1, Mk2 and a Cosworth.

Heading the field was MIRA expert Tom Morris and Colin Harkness followed by Robert Lowe and Stephen Shepherd and the eventual winners Simon Mauger and Brian Cammack,

all in Metro 6R4s. Mauger swapped his trusty Mk2 Escort for a 6R4.

The organising club put out 14 cars. Cub president Ron Aiken (Stafford) teamed up with co-driver Brian Neale, of Hedgesford, in their Mainline Haulage backed Mk1 Escort.

At 11 were new members Stephen Tilburn and Jack Benjamin, Escort RS2000 followed at 12 by Brownhills driver Martin Payton and young co-driver Matt Evans, from Tamworth in a Mitsubishi Evo 6. After six drives Mauger had a 12 second lead. The event was curtailed to a final 'sting in the tail' stage and the final outcome

saw Mauger and Cammack 20-second winners over Morris and Harkness with the Darran T9 crew David Tinn and Marc Fowler in third place.

Cannock crews results: Third overall, class D, car four, Darran T9: David Tinn and Mark Fowler - 1h 11m 48s. Seventh, second class D, car 10, Escort Mk1: Ron Aiken and Brian Neale - 1-15-43. 15th, fourth class D, car 24, Sierra Cosworth: Duncan Waite and Keith Garton - 1-18-21. 17th, fifth class D, car 12, Mitsubishi Evo 6: Martin Payton and Matt Evans - 1-18-28. 19th, seventh class C, car 31, Peugeot 205: James Nicholls and Kevin Robinson - 1-18-53. 22nd, ninth class C, car 28, Escort Mk2: Ben Gill and Dave Didcock - 1-20-09. 26th, fifth class B, car 45, Peugeot 205GT: Kevin Robinson and Dave Tortoise - 1-21-58. 29th, seventh class D, car 43, BMW M3 Maxi GP A: Jon Fox and Jane Fox - 1-22-45.

Pitmen on the ball for involving youngsters

HEDNESFORD Town FC are looking for youngsters to be ball boys and girls on a regular basis for their home fixtures next season.

The move follows a successful trial during 2012/13.

The Keys Park outfit, promoted to the Conference North through the play-offs, are keen to invite any local clubs or primary school teams to nominate a fixture where up to 10 of their players can be ball boys/girls for the day.

Club secretary Terry McMahon said the scheme would become an integral part of the club.

He said: "The trial last season worked well and we feel that, as a club, we can offer local children the opportunity to experience non-league football perhaps for the first time."

The itinerary for the day includes giving the players a guard of honour as they enter the pitch, a photo opportunity in front of the main stand, a half-time penalty shoot-out and hot chocolate and biscuits.

To register, contact Club Press officer, Chris Brewerton, on chrisbrewerton@hotmail.co.uk or 07880 319739.

Bulldogs in fightback for victory

Birmingham Bulldogs 28
Coventry Bears A 22

BIRMINGHAM Bulldogs Rugby League FC came into this match on the back of two successive defeats, and after the opening quarter of an hour, a third loss loomed.

But Brum fought back well and held on for a memorable win.

Playing up the slope, Birmingham grabbed possession from the off, but it was Bears who opened the scoring after three minutes when right wing Chris Dixon crossed in the corner.

Coventry extended their lead when Greg Moore touched down and scrum half George Rea added the goal.

Bulldogs cut the gap when left-winger Jermaine Bernard snaffled an up-and-under and cut in for a try that stand-off Sam Edgar converted.

MoM Edgar also joined the try scorers' list, adding the extra points. Conor Slater was Coventry's MoM.

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Wheel deal
Rally crews take
part in new event
Page 108



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Brandy is poised to sign deal with rivals

FEBIAN BRANDY was set to walk out on a new deal at Walsall and join Sheffield United.

The 24-year-old forward is reported to be undergoing a medical at the Blades after agreeing a three-year deal, as one of the biggest Saddlers sagas of the summer appeared to be nearing a conclusion.

Walsall could be hit by a double blow as huge doubts still remain over the future of 20-goal striker Will Grigg.

Neither Grigg nor Brandy, whose contracts expire next week, were present at Essington as the Saddlers began pre-season training.

Both have been the subject of continued speculation in recent months as talks over new deals stalled and Brandy has now decided his future lies away from the Banks's.

Despite telling boss Dean Smith he wanted to play Championship football, the former Manchester United trainee has opted to remain in League One with the Blades.

It is a move bound to disappoint Smith along with Saddlers supporters, who had hoped Brandy would show more loyalty after enjoying a career revival last season, scoring seven goals in 37 appearances.

And with Grigg's future also in serious doubt, Smith faces the prospect of being left short of strikers.

Scholars to face Wolves

CHASETOWN have revealed their showpiece friendly fixtures as they look to bounce back from play-off woe.

They will host Wolves, Walsall and Kidderminster in a bumper pre-season programme as they aim for promotion from the Northern Premier League First Division South.

The Scholars lost in the play-offs last season and will host Walsall on July 24, Harriers three days later and Wolves on August 2.

Craig Harris' men will also play Wolverhampton Casuals on July 20 and Rushall on August 6. They go to Hednesford on July 30.

Harris said: "It gives everyone a buzz, when Wolves come and we are looking forward to it."

Harris also revealed he has almost finalised his squad for pre-season with the majority agreeing to return.

Sponsor helps club to ring in the changes



From left, assistant coach Andy Peach, MD of James Evans Financial Services Chris Evans, Great Wyrley Sports & Social Club steward Simon Barnes, club president Scott Pearce and coach Peter Hickenbottom

GREAT Wyrley ABC are ringing the changes thanks to the generosity of their sponsor. James Evans Financial Services has paid for a new boxing ring for their gym.

Coach Peter Hickenbottom said: "Chris Evans, managing director of James Evans Financial Services, started training down the gym last year and became our sponsor almost immediately.

"I said we didn't want a cash sponsor but would welcome any equipment Chris would care to get us. To say he has been generous is an understatement.

Boxing

ment. Before the exhibition show two weeks ago, Chris and I discussed the gym and I said I would like to use the money raised to buy a new sparring ring.

"Chris said he would buy it for the club and was on the phone to Unibox ring hire/suppliers and arranged for them to come over and measure up.

"Last week they came over and installed it. I cannot thank Chris and James Evans Financial Services enough, especially in these hard times,

a marvellous gesture, greatly appreciated by me, assistant coach Andy and everyone who uses the gym.

"The gym now has two rings after moving the old one in the back room. It was much needed, considering the numbers we are getting down here and gives the gym a more professional look.

"Fourteen and a half years the club has been running now," said Pete. "And hopefully the club is now moving on to the next level and next season should be very exciting indeed with everyone in the gym already looking forward to the new season."

Ellie sets herself new goal

PARALYMPIC hero Ellie Simmonds has insisted she must move on from London 2012 as she targeted World Championship glory.

The Walsall star is ready for the British Gas Swimming Championships – a warm-up for the IPC World Championships in Montreal in August.

She has already qualified for Canada after April's British International Disability Swimming Championships.

And, almost a year after she won double gold at the Paralympics, Simmonds is focused on the future.

"We do need to move on; it's nice to have people talking about it as it brings some amazing memories back and it shows the public still think about London," said the 18-year-old.

"After London I was here, there and everywhere.

"I wasn't in my normal routine and when I did get back into it, it was suddenly a bit boring. Each week I was doing something different, something amazing – but it can't be like that all the time, you have to get back into the routine."

She admitted she has used the world championship as motivation after struggling

Purkiss signs to help bring cheer

DEFENDER Ben Purkiss has handed Walsall a timely boost by committing his immediate future to them.

With the Saddlers having lost forward Febian Brandy to Sheffield United and with the future of striker Will Grigg still very much in doubt, right-back Purkiss has given them something to cheer about by penning a new one-year deal.

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FRIENDLIES IN THE SUN FOR SADDLERS

WALSALL will prepare for the new League One campaign in the sun after announcing an unprecedented pre-season tour to Trinidad and Tobago.

Dean Smith's men will spend a week on the Antilles islands, where they will play three matches against local opposition.

The Saddlers' longest trip of the pre-season looked set to be the July 16 journey to Derbyshire outfit Alfreton Town – but they will now fly 4,500 miles when the tour begins next Wednesday, July 3.

Smith's side have been invited by Central FC, a T1 Pro League outfit founded by former Dundee and Gillingham player Brent Sancho, and currently managed by former England international Terry Fenwick. The club's operations director Kevin Harrison is a friend of the Saddlers manager.

Saddlers

nity and attend local schools as well as meeting the Mayor of San Fernando Dr Navi Muradali.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for the club," said Smith.

"We had been looking for somewhere to go on tour since the end of last season and this fits in perfectly with our schedule.

"A mutual friend put Kevin Harrison, who I know from my time at Leyton Orient when he worked for the PFA, and who is also involved with the Football Players' Association of Trinidad and Tobago, in touch with me and it has gone from there.

Experience

"We will take part in three games and also get involved with the local community, so it's going to be a really productive and worthwhile seven days.

"As good as our training ground is, it's always nice to be able to get away and spend some time in different surroundings.

"This experience is going to be extremely beneficial to us and hopefully those people that we meet along the way."

Cup winners search for new season backers



Chase United Under-11s are looking for a sponsor for next season when they join the Midland and Junior League

YOUNG footballers from Cannock are looking for a sponsor to kick off their new season.

Chase United's Under-11s are appealing for local businesses to sponsor its kit and trackuits.

The team, who train at St Peter's C of E Primary School, Hednesford, recently joined Hednesford Town Football Club's youth development

programme and will soon join the Midland Junior Premier League. In May they beat Hednesford Town 5-2 at Wolverhampton's Molineux Stadium to win the Jimmy Mullen Cup.

Manager Stuart Lake, who played in centre-midfield for Hednesford Town for 10 years, said: "We are really proud of the boys. It was a fantastic achievement to win the cup and they

performed excellently. We just want them to do as well as they can going forward. We know there will be some really good sides in the league but hopefully the boys can continue to improve and deliver."

Mr Lake, whose son Louis plays for the team, thanked his assistant, Pete Wilkinson. Anyone potential sponsor should call Mr Lake on 07540412234.



Manager Dean Smith

Walsall will play a Trinidad and Tobago XI and a League Select XI, while the blue-riband clash is against hosts Central FC who they meet at the Ato Bolden Stadium in Couva on July 9.

While on the islands, the Saddlers will also undertake coaching within the commu-

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